

YOUTH AND LEISURE

A SURVEY OF GIRLS' ORGANISATIONS
IN ENGLAND AND WALES

BY

MADELINE ROOFF, B.A.

PREPARED AT THE REQUEST OF THE TRUSTEES
OF THE CARNEGIE UNITED KINGDOM TRUST
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF GIRLS' CLUBS

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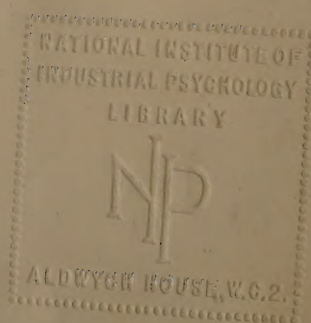
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YOUTH AND THE FUTURE

A SURVEY OF GIRLS
ORGANISATIONS IN
ENGLAND AND WALES

MARGARET ROOPE, B.A.

PREPARED AT THE REQUEST OF THE BRITISH
OF THE LANCETURE BOARD, LONDON, 1931
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YOUTH CLERKS

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PREFATORY NOTE

I have the honour to present the Report of an enquiry made on behalf of the National Council of Girls' Clubs, under the auspices of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust. The terms of reference were: "To survey the recreational facilities available for girls and young women in England and Wales with a view to determining their leisure-time needs." While it was intended that the enquiry should be concerned in the main with girls' clubs and similar units, I was permitted, in so far as time and opportunity allowed, to extend the scope to include other groups which offered recreational facilities, whether this was the main object of association, or subsidiary to a wider purpose.

A general enquiry over so wide an area as England and Wales in the space of one year would not have been possible without the co-operation of the many workers concerned with juvenile welfare, both public officials and private individuals, who have given ungrudgingly of their time. I take this opportunity of acknowledging with sincere thanks the assistance given me, both by interview and correspondence, and the courtesy with which my enquiries have been received.

I would particularly acknowledge the encouragement received from the Chairman and Organising Secretary of the N.C.G.C., and the Secretaries of the affiliated National Societies, who, while readily giving access to available material and taking a keen interest in the progress of the enquiry, have left me a free hand both in the organisation and the conduct of the Survey.

MADELINE ROOFF,
Survey Organiser.

February 1935.

The nature and method of the enquiry are described in the introductory chapter.

I append a list of those with whom I have had interviews or to whom I am otherwise indebted for co-operation in the enquiry.

Officials of the Board of Education, Directors of Education and their staff, particularly those who prepared statistics.

Heads of Evening Institutes, Physical Training Organisers and Leaders of Old Scholars' Associations, Secretaries of Juvenile Organisations Committees, and Juvenile Employment Bureaux.

The Workers' Educational Association.

The British Institute of Adult Education.

Tutors and Students of the Social Science Departments of the Universities of Liverpool and London (Bedford College and London School of Economics), and members of the Universities of Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, and Southampton.

The Institute of Sociology.

Officials of the Ministry of Labour, Divisional Controllers, Managers of Employment Exchanges and Secretaries of Juvenile Advisory Committees, and Superintendents of Junior Instruction Centres.

The Institute of Labour Management.

The Industrial Welfare Society.

The National Council of Social Service, and local Councils of Social Service and Community Councils.

The Secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers.

The Central Council for the Social Welfare of Women and Girls in London.

Contacts have also been made with various women's associations, namely :—

The National Federation of Women's Institutes.

The National Union of Townswomen's Guilds.

The National Council of Women.

and with various branches of :—

The Women Citizens' Association.

The Soroptimists.

The Toc H League of Women Helpers.

In addition I have received co-operation from representatives of religious bodies of all denominations.

The Residential Settlements throughout the country have co-operated in the enquiry, and help was also received from several Educational Settlements.

Public Officials and others in some fifty towns were interviewed, including the Town Clerk, Medical Officer of Health, Librarian, Chief Constable, Probation Officers, Policewomen and Moral Welfare Organisers, Public Assistance Officers, Welfare Superintendents and other social workers.

Certain political organisations have given information concerning their Youth Groups in so far as they have social and recreational activities, and some Trades Union Secretaries and Secretaries of Trades Councils were also interviewed.

Youth Groups co-operating included :—

The League of Nations Union Youth Groups.

Junior Red Cross.

St. John's Ambulance Brigade Cadets.

The National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs.

The Youth Hostels' Association.

The National Home Fire Girls.

The Wayfarers' Sunday Association.

The Regnal League.

The Shaftesbury Society.

*The British Camp Fire Girls.

*The Christian Alliance of Women and Girls.

*The Young People's Committee of the Adult School Union.

*The London Association of Old Scholars' Clubs.

The five affiliated National Societies (*Federation of Working Girls' Clubs, *The Girls' Friendly Society, *The Girls' Guildry, *The Girls' Life Brigade, and *The Young Women's Christian Association).

*The Secretaries of the Girls' Club Unions.

(N.B.—Those marked (*) distributed questionnaires to all their units with a letter recommending co-operation in the enquiry.)

The Girl Guides Association co-operated and prepared statistics for certain areas, and Guiders in various parts of the country supported the enquiry.

I was glad to be able to keep in touch with the National Association of Boys' Clubs, who were also making a survey.

I am particularly indebted to all who made detailed enquiries in their area. These included the Secretaries of the Girls' Club Unions as well as social workers and officials in several towns (the names of these investigators are given in the appropriate section); and to the Kent Education Committee (in co-operation with the Kent Council of Social Service), who made special enquiry of all their Juvenile Employment Bureaux.

Acknowledgment is made of permission to quote from reports and surveys—to the Kent Education Committee for quotations from *Education in Kent*; to Mr Caradog Jones, editor of *The Social Survey of Merseyside*; and to Sir Hubert Llewellyn Smith for permission to consult the proof sheets of *London Life and Labour*, vol. 9.

I am indebted to the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office for permission to reproduce extracts from various official publications.

PART I

NATURE AND METHOD OF INVESTIGATION

SINCE it was the purpose of the survey to give an account of the general nature of the recreational facilities offered to girls and young women throughout England and Wales and to report within a short period (one year) so that the position could be viewed as a whole, it was necessary to take full advantage of facts already known and to consult with workers experienced in young people's welfare who had wide knowledge of their neighbourhood. Any local surveys known to have been made recently were consulted (see Bibliography). After two months' preparation, of interviews with representatives of National Organisations and with public officials and private individuals in touch with problems concerning young people, a questionnaire was issued with a view to discovering the nature of the activities offered, the type of young person attracted, and the needs for development of various organisations. Some 4000 questionnaires were sent out through their respective national associations to leaders of every variety of club in all parts of the country. Approximately 2000 were returned completed. The organisations which returned the smallest proportion were the company units (Girls' Guildry and G.L.B.), and as these are the groups with the largest sections of junior members (under 14) offering a more uniform type of activity, it was felt that the questionnaires returned by them could be taken as representative of their organisations. Since the readiness or the ability to fill in questionnaires has little or no relation to other qualities of a club leader (excellent leaders as well as poor ones failing in this respect), the questionnaires returned may be regarded as a fair sample and not merely representative of clubs with greater vitality.

To supplement these returns certain towns were selected for more detailed study.¹ Fifty towns in England and South Wales, representing widely different economic and social conditions, were visited. They ranged from towns with a population of approximately 1,000,000 (Liverpool and Birmingham) to towns of 20,000. For the consideration of conditions in rural areas the co-operation of the Women's Institutes was sought, and of Directors of Education for the Counties. The choice was conditioned partly by the possibility of making contacts with those in close touch with juvenile welfare, *e.g.* where there were active J.O.C. or J.E.Cs., Councils of Social Service or Girls' Club Unions, an area enquiry form was left in the charge of an investigator who undertook

¹ There are in England and Wales 1120 Urban Districts, of which 113 have a population exceeding 50,000.

to collect specific information. But some towns were selected for the opposite reason, that there was little evidence of work amongst juveniles. Directors of Education were interviewed in 40 or more towns, and 35 Education Authorities sent detailed answers to questionnaires, while others gave useful information at the interview.

No rigid upper or lower age limit has been set, since youth organisations and girls' clubs in particular include all sections, from juniors not long past the nursery stage to married members and others over 30 years of age. But the main emphasis has been laid on the facilities for young people, particularly those between 14 and 25 (and 14 and 18).

In an investigation into recreational facilities, so much depends on the initiative of individuals who chance to live in a town that none can be said to be typical. It is hoped, however, that the information collected, together with the returns from organisations in widely scattered towns all over the country, will give indications of the general position and point the way for further investigation.

Much of the survey is necessarily based upon the opinion of experienced workers. These are considered in relation to the problem as a whole and are checked by available statistics whenever possible. (Statistics from Government Reports, *e.g.* the 1931 Census, which are relevant to this enquiry are quoted in Part II.) It is necessary to bear in mind throughout that statistics of juvenile organisations are approximate only, and they can, if taken apart from other factors, be exceedingly misleading. In any case, facts which have come to the knowledge of the investigator may not be exhaustive, and there may be many organisations which are left out of account. It is believed that, as with most sociological investigations, the qualitative rather than the quantitative results of the enquiry will be of greater value.

YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

ANY survey of youth organisations reveals an almost infinite variety of associations, from the obscure little band with, maybe, a flourishing title, to the nation-wide organisation which has caught the imagination of many thousands of girls.

Many of the pioneers of club work in the past set out in the spirit of the crusader to work for the social welfare of girls. Much of their work was of the type aptly described as "social ambulance," and many clubs were run in order to provide an alternative to the streets. Such clubs have done, and still do, remarkable work. Many probation officers and moral welfare workers to-day bear testimony to the preventive work of the clubs, and urge the need for further opportunities all over the country for social and recreational activities. Experience shows that much delinquency is the result of an overflow of high spirits which can find no outlet in normal channels. Records point to an increase in delinquency on Sundays, when "there is nothing to do." Chief Constables look upon clubs as good police work, and there is no doubt that this somewhat negative aspect of club work stresses an important feature in the relation of clubs to the social life of the community.

But the modern leader emphasises the more positive contributions of club life and sees the constructive value of recreational activities. She believes that opportunities for a wise use of leisure should be available for all young people, particularly at the crucial period of adolescence when standards of judgment are being formed which will affect the whole of adult life. It is her aim to train young members to take responsibility and to cultivate that independence of spirit which will fit them to take their place as citizens of the community.

Many clubs and fellowships are run almost entirely by young people, *e.g.* Church Fellowships and political groups, where the elderly officers of the past have given place to young men and women in the early twenties.

Numerous societies working for the mental, physical, spiritual, and social welfare of girls and young women, while alike in principle, differ in method and organisation. They have been founded at different times in response to the varying needs of girls, due to differences in temperament or in social background.

I. YOUTH ORGANISATIONS AFFILIATED TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF GIRLS' CLUBS

IN order to co-ordinate the activities of all who are working to provide recreational and social facilities for girls and young women, and at the same time to preserve the distinctive individuality of each society, the National Council of Girls' Clubs was formed (known as the National Organisation of Girls' Clubs from 1909 to 1926). This Council does not affiliate individual clubs, but works through national societies and area federations or unions. At the present time five national societies are affiliated, the Federation of Working Girls' Clubs, Girls' Friendly Society, Girls' Guildry, Girls' Life Brigade, and the Young Women's Christian Association, and some forty unions in various parts of England and Wales (as well as others in Scotland). Close and friendly association exists with other national youth organisations, the Girl Guides Association having representation on the Executive Council.

The scope of the work of the N.C.G.C. is comprehensive, embracing any clubs which have for their object the physical, mental, social, and spiritual welfare of the girl. While it is non-political, it is interdenominational, and the local unions of girls' clubs have affiliated to them Church of England Clubs, Free Church Clubs, Roman Catholic Clubs, and Jewish Clubs, as well as a considerable number of "Open" Clubs. Many units of the five affiliated National Societies are also members of the local Girls' Club Unions, and in several unions Girl Guide Companies are represented. Other units include works' clubs, Junior Branches of St John's Ambulance, Nurses' Clubs, etc.

The organisation of the N.C.G.C. is democratic both in its policy of decentralisation, working through local unions, and in its encouragement of self-government within the clubs. Representatives from the Club Members' Committees form a Members' Council for each union, and these are co-ordinated in a National Members' Council which has representation on the Executive Committee of the N.C.G.C. (See Part II. Sec. I. vi.)

Unions in some parts of the country co-operate to form a regional group, *e.g.* the North-West Division and the London Division, and they have permanent representation on the Executive together with the National Affiliated Societies. The various unions have representation in rotation:

Each union links up the work of the clubs in its area by encouraging inter-club activities, and most unions arrange annual competitions or demonstrations in a variety of subjects, including handicrafts, recreational gymnastics, etc., music, and dramatics. Concerts or socials and annual meetings bring together club leaders and members from all types of clubs, and the stimulus given to the development of wider interests by such friendly contacts is a valuable feature of membership of a local

union or federation. Another factor of great importance to the vitality of club life is that a union, speaking for a large group of girls, is in a strong position to negotiate with other bodies for the development of club facilities, *e.g.* with the Local Education Authority for the provision of instructors and with the Playing Fields Committee for opportunities for outdoor games, etc. Moreover, a union can play its part in the civic life of the town when its officers are represented on various local committees; *e.g.* the Juvenile Employment Committee and After-Care Committees, and this reacts on the union by giving it a wider outlook and broader sympathies.

The functions of a union in its own locality illustrate on a smaller scale the purpose of the N.C.G.C. in the life of the nation as a whole. The National Council, representing over 4000 clubs in England and Wales with a total membership of approximately 271,000, can speak with authority on questions affecting girls' welfare. It has been actively concerned, through its Parliamentary Committee (held jointly with the Y.W.C.A.), with such questions as the school-leaving age, the housing and conditions of work of young shop assistants and of young people in unregulated trades, the age of entry into National Health Insurance and Unemployment Insurance; and it has co-operated in the enquiry into the problem of the early morning wait of young people travelling to London by workmen's trains. It has kept in close touch with other associations whose work is concerned with the social, industrial, and economic welfare of women and girls, having representation, amongst others, on the Committees of the Board of Education Juvenile Organisations Committee, the British Association of Residential Settlements, the British Drama League, the League of Nations Union, the National Council of Social Service, the National Council of Women, the National Playing Fields Association, the Workers' Educational Association, and the Youth Hostels Association. The N.C.G.C. also works in close association with the National Association of Boys' Clubs.

As a national body the N.C.G.C. is able to participate in grants from various Trust funds, and through the Carnegie Trust, the Pilgrim Trust, the London Parochial Charities, and the National Council of Social Service, as well as by donations from other sources, the Council has been able to extend its work in many directions and to offer facilities which could not otherwise have been available to club girls all over the country. This expansion has included the appointment of two experts in Physical Training, who arrange training courses and refresher courses, give demonstrations of recreational gymnastics, and visit girls' clubs of all types to take classes which must be specially adapted for the use of girls, most of whom have been working all day. They have also to bear in mind the nature of the available premises and equipment. A demonstration at the Albert Hall in December 1934 illustrated the achievements and potentialities of the modern methods in physical training. (See description in Part II. Sec. I. 1.)

A special feature of this work has been the development by two

specially appointed gymnasts of "Keep-Fit" classes in certain Lancashire towns where unemployment is particularly heavy. (See Part I. Sec. IX.)

To encourage the expansion of club work throughout the country, a field organiser has been appointed, and her visits to established unions, as well as her pioneer work in other areas, have provided a valuable link between Headquarters and the various unions.

Grants towards holidays have been given in the past to help individuals or clubs in the poorest areas, but recently the funds have been used to establish a club camp in the north at Filey. A club camp at Bognor, in use for two years, has proved a great success, and it was felt that a similar camp in the north would be welcomed by clubs for whom the fare to the south has been prohibitive.

The N.C.G.C. is thus not only a co-ordinating body but a potential source of power for the development of clubs throughout the country. Its training courses for all-round club work (in addition to the special courses noted above, Physical Training, etc.) have been organised as holiday courses of several weeks' duration or as week-end refresher courses in various parts of the country. It has also sent speakers and instructors to the courses arranged by local unions (at their invitation). But so pressing has been the problem of finding trained leaders that the N.C.G.C. has recently developed a special training scheme. This is organised in close co-operation with religious bodies of all denominations, with the Social Science departments of several universities, with residential settlements, and with other social agencies. It includes theoretical and practical instruction in the many aspects of club work, and it has the support of all the club unions and affiliated National Societies.

The N.C.G.C. has been enthusiastic in the encouragement of drama, music, and handicrafts; by organising special courses and through conferences, it seeks to bring these within reach of the ordinary club girl, at the same time maintaining a high standard.

The N.C.G.C. is also concerned with the health of club members, and the Club Medical Scheme, already working in a few clubs, has proved of great value. It is described in various pamphlets which are available to clubs who wish to adopt it.

As a bureau of information, the N.C.G.C. performs useful work in many directions. In addition to that already described, it has established an employment bureau for club leaders, and by special arrangement with the Ministry of Labour, a "Social Work" section has been established at the Professional Women's Department of the Gt. Marlborough Street Employment Exchange in London. The N.C.G.C. also runs an Accident and Sickness (Moral Liability) Holiday Insurance Scheme, and circulates information concerning the Legal Liability Insurance Scheme worked out by the Board of Education J.O.C. Its Publicity and Publications Sub-Committee is concerned with the production of various pamphlets and handbooks of interest to all

workers in girls' clubs, and it is responsible for the publication of the national magazine, the *Signpost*, for club members. In co-operation with the F.W.G.C. the *Girls' Club Journal* is published for club leaders.

A description follows of the general nature of the work of the affiliated National Societies, showing the distinctive features of each group. The work of the Unions and Federations will be described in Part II., when a more detailed account of club activities will be given.

1.—FEDERATION OF WORKING GIRLS' CLUBS

The Federation of Working Girls' Clubs, established for 48 years, is an interdenominational Union of Girls' Clubs which seeks to promote the educational, industrial, social, and spiritual welfare of its members. The Federation's motto is "By love, serve," its emblem, a columbine.

There are some 169 clubs, with a total membership of approximately 14,000.¹ Of these more than half are in London, while the rest are scattered over the English counties, largely in the Home counties. Federation activities include arrangement for leaders' and girls' conferences; the organisation of competitions in educational and handicraft subjects as well as in recreational gymnastics; holiday camps; and the promotion of a flower guild which supplies flowers to town clubs. A Forewomen's Guild "seeks to unite forewomen and club workers in the common aims of helping girls." The chief work of the Federation is that of co-ordination. It serves as a bureau of information, but leaves details of organisation to individual clubs. Outside London it fulfils the function of a Union of scattered clubs. Any description of the work of a Union of Girls' Clubs as a co-ordinating body for one area would apply on a national scale to that of the F.W.G.C. In co-operation with the N.C.G.C. the Federation publishes three times a year the *Girls' Club Journal*, which not only gives news and fixtures to club leaders, but keeps them in touch with current events affecting girls' welfare.

2.—THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY

The Girls' Friendly Society, organised throughout the Dioceses of England, is the most widespread of the five National Societies affiliated to the N.C.G.C. Its 2256 branches, with a total membership, including candidates, estimated to be 158,000,² are particularly strong in the villages and small towns, and a large number of branches (approximately 25 per cent. of the total) consist of small groups of 30 or less. Lancashire is a stronghold of G.F.S. activity, with 321 branches and a total membership of more than 13,000. Yorkshire is second, with about half the membership and about one-third the number of branches. (It has a higher average membership per branch, *viz.* 60). Kent (over 4000), Staffordshire, and Durham (over 3000) are well represented, and Warwickshire is distinguished by its large number of small branches

¹ 1934 figures.

² 1932 figures.

(at 32 members per branch). The rest are well scattered throughout the English counties (and in Wales). But there are indications of a falling off in membership in many parts of the country, and the totals for England and Wales have shown a yearly decrease.

The activities of the G.F.S. branches vary according to the size of the groups, the ages of the members, and the local opportunities, and with the nature of the leadership. No one over the age of 30 may join the G.F.S., but a great many members continue their membership long after this age limit is reached. A study of the age composition of the G.F.S. membership compared with that of the other national societies reveals that the G.F.S. has the largest proportion of older members. Of a total membership of 105,117, 26,332 are under 18 years of age, i.e. approximately 75 per cent. are over 18 years of age; 18,676 are working Associates and Helpers (more than half of the latter are married). This does not include the Candidates (ages 7 to 14), of whom there are approximately 46,000 actually enrolled and another 6000 receiving G.F.S. instruction. (The total equal to about twice the number of the members under 18.) The candidates are in turn divided into Juniors (age 7 to 11; total 26,883) and Seniors (age 11 to 14; total 19,410), and a recent innovation particularly favoured in the large cities is the Prentice Scheme, run in some 66 branches. This scheme seeks to bridge the gap between the stages of Candidate and Member. A "Pilot" guides the Prentice over the difficult period until she feels at home in her new group.

There are 196 G.F.S. Girl Guide Companies, 147 Brownie Packs, and 76 Ranger Companies in England and Wales.

The outstanding feature of the work of the G.F.S. is its stress on the ideal of purity. The object of the Society is "*To unite for the Glory of God, in one Fellowship of Prayer and Service, the Girls and Women of the Empire, to uphold Purity in Thought, Word and Deed.*" The Society offers friendly comradeship and opportunities of service for others through introductions from branch to branch, and from one country to another. It also encourages loyalty and faithfulness in work and home life, and self-control in all things."

It is urged that while Associates and Members of the Society must abide by the Central Rules, "in the interests of the Society and of the Club, it is desirable that membership of the *Club* should be open to all girls."

The great majority of the G.F.S. clubs meet only once a week, often in the home of the leader. Sometimes the meeting is largely in the nature of a friendly evening, with some needlework or handicraft and the much appreciated opportunity to chat. Some clubs, however, are open several nights a week, with facilities for a variety of activities, including recreational gymnastics, music, handicrafts, and homecraft and dramatic work. One or two clubs are beginning to welcome boy friends of the members, and joint activities are becoming more common. A recent venture has been the opening of the White Horse Club in

London for boys and girls, who need not be members of the G.F.S. Different clubs are open each night: two for those under 11 and others for seniors (to 22 years of age or more). Joint activities of girls and boys are a feature of club work.

Another club of great value is situated near one of the busiest London stations. Open throughout the year as a tea and rest room from noon till 10 P.M. (subscriptions of 1d. a time for use of rest room or 2s. 6d. per year), it is also open during the summer months in the evenings as a club for any girls and their friends who wish to go in—a great advantage, since many clubs are closed between July and mid-September. Table games, opportunities for a chat (some one is always there to offer a friendly welcome), and occasional expeditions are amongst the facilities offered.

The G.F.S. throughout the country arranges a series of Festivals and Competitions in all branches of club work. These arouse much enthusiasm in some Dioceses, and not only bring various branches into friendly rivalry, but strengthen the bond between small groups so that they feel the joy of a wider membership.

The G.F.S. has a membership drawn from all sections of the community, but its work would seem to be particularly strong in the opportunities offered to domestic servants. Its Central Employment Office sets up a bureau for maids seeking work, and its "League of Skilled Housecraft" seeks to raise the status of domestic work.

Domestic workers and others who have to find employment away from their own homes find that the G.F.S. system of "commendation" is a most helpful form of introduction in an otherwise strange land. When a girl is about to leave her own home, her Associate (branch leader) gets into touch with the Associate in the area of employment and a friendly welcome awaits the newcomer. Such a system of commendation is a distinctive feature of G.F.S. work, and the strengthening of links between clubs of all kinds with a similar method of commendation would be of considerable value in combating the feeling of loneliness and homesickness which girls feel so strongly when they first leave home. This is a valuable piece of service in many districts at the present time, when so many girls are being transferred from the distressed areas, not only to domestic service but into industry.

3.—THE GIRLS' GUILDRY

The Girls' Guildry is a Scottish movement with its Headquarters in Glasgow, but 108 companies with a total membership of approximately 4600¹ are established in England.

A glance at the statistics of membership will show that the movement appeals specially to the younger members. In every one of the eight centres in which Girls' Companies are organised, the membership for the Junior Section (now known as "Guildry Greenwood") stands

¹ 1932-33 figures.

highest. In some the Senior Section ("The Guildry Company") takes second place, but in others the "Guildry Garden" has a higher membership than the Senior Section. The totals for the whole country are: Junior Section, 47 per cent.; Senior Section, 32 per cent.; Guildry Garden, 21 per cent. There is a Welsh Company with Senior membership only.

Its object is "to help girls to be followers of the Lord Jesus Christ" and "To promote in girls discipline, self-respect, helpfulness and reverence." The leader, known as a Guardian, is nominated by the Church to which the Company is attached, and attendance at a Bible Class or Sunday School is a rule of membership of the Guildry.

Infantry drill and training in nursing and health subjects are prominent in Guildry activities, and handicrafts of various kinds are encouraged by the organisation of competitions and exhibitions. Trophies are awarded to companies as units and not to individuals. The award of the Mavor Cup is made for collections of wild flowers, which are pressed and carefully named and sent round to various centres with other exhibits, *e.g.* of embroidery, so that companies in different parts of the country can see the finest work sent in. Camp holidays are also a feature of Guildry activities.

Recently an attempt has been made by Headquarters to bring the whole organisation in line with modern ideas. In the Guildry the uniform has been brought up to date, and the Service Decorations have undergone a change. The enrolment promise has been re-cast and various suggestions for evening programmes made, giving greater responsibility to Guildry members. The Junior Section has undergone great changes, with opportunities for imaginative activities supplanting any idea that it was merely an imitation of the Senior group. The "Guildry Garden" remains very much as it was.

4.—THE GIRLS' LIFE BRIGADE

The Girls' Life Brigade, founded under the auspices of the National Sunday School Union, has been steadily developing in England for some thirty years. There are to-day in England and Wales about 940 companies, with a membership of over 40,000.¹ The Juniors (10-14 years) are strongest numerically. The Cadets (6-10 years) come next; and the Seniors (14 and over) constitute 25 per cent. of the total membership. In addition, there are small groups of Pioneers (over 18), and some 3000 officers.

The aim of the Brigade is "To awaken in girls a sense of their responsibility in life, and determination to make the best use of all their powers"; "To train its members for noble and helpful Christian womanhood."

Membership entails certain responsibilities, including regular attendance at Sunday School or Bible Class, for "the Movement is an integral part of the Church of Christ—not an outside interest." It is also a

¹ 1932-33 figures.

Temperance movement and all members must be total abstainers. The motto of the movement is "To Save Life."

The Girls' Life Brigade is interdenominational (though in fact it has the support chiefly of the Free Churches), and, like the G.F.S., Y.W.C.A., and the Girl Guide Movement, it is international, having companies in many outposts of the world. A broad outlook and sympathy with other lands are encouraged by study of international questions. (An international Friendship Shield is competed for annually.)

First Aid, Home Nursing, and Physical Training are important activities in a company programme, but handicrafts, music, and social activities are encouraged where there is all-round balanced work. Competitions and displays of many kinds, together with a system of badge tests (*cf.* the Girl Guides), keep up the standard of work and bring friendly contact with other units. A blue uniform, which is neat but rather heavy in style, is being gradually adapted to modern needs. (There is also a summer outfit.)

The special feature of the G.L.B. work is its close association with Sunday School work. A large proportion of Brigade members are Sunday School teachers, and Company reports are full of references to the strengthening of the membership of the Church and Sunday School, due to Brigade influence. As the G.L.B. was inaugurated "in the hope that it would prove one solution of the problem: how to retain our elder scholars, and bring them into Church membership and Christian service," so it has continued to make association with the Church the backbone of its work.

5.—THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

The Y.W.C.A. in this country is part of the world-wide movement of the same name which has as one of its aims "to encourage understanding and friendship between the peoples of the world." There are in England and Wales 175 Y.W.C.A. Centres (clubs and branches), a few being one-night-a-week groups, but the majority being open every day to any women and girls. Of these, 115 are clubs (104 England, 11 Wales) offering a fourfold programme of physical, recreational, educational, and religious activities, and run on self-governing lines. The membership is directly represented on the Central Governing Body of the Association. The total membership is 27,765 in England and Wales alone, of which approximately 8000 are under 16. Of those over 16, some 10,000 have been enrolled as full members, *i.e.* have been willing "to declare their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and their desire to serve others in His spirit of love." Some of the largest clubs have a membership of several hundreds and are organised as family centres, open every night in the week, serving married women, seniors, pioneers and juniors, while fathers, brothers, and boy friends are welcome to certain activities.

Most of the town centres throw open the lounges, with oppor-

tunities for refreshment, on Sunday afternoons and evenings, to girls and their boy friends. In the "open-door" centres, trained and salaried leaders guide the activities of the various sections. This is an immense advantage, both in encouraging a varied and balanced programme and in training voluntary helpers for responsible work. The Y.W.C.A. has its own Training College at Selly Oak.

The value of such a trained leader is shown particularly in the extension of work to new housing estates, since a full-time leader is able to start a branch in an outlying area and send out her voluntary helpers from the centre, thus acting as a power-house for branch clubs. Some of the largest centres have also a cafeteria and information bureau, both of which are a boon to the girl who lives or works far from her home. Occasionally club facilities have been provided as part of a special service, *e.g.* at Saltaire, where a club was run in connection with a hostel for girls from distressed areas who were brought in by the Ministry of Labour to the woollen mills; and at Long Sutton, where a club for strawberry pickers and their children was organised for four weeks. Special work, too, has been done to extend the opportunities for unemployed women and girls, and organisers appointed for the purpose have opened a number of new centres.

The Y.W.C.A. holiday centres are well known. Many week-end and summer camps are organised, and an interesting experiment has been made in running a holiday hostel for girls with their boy friends.

A study of membership throws an interesting light on the particular work of the Y.W.C.A. The majority belong to the 16 years and over-age group, but there is an active junior section of 11-16 years old, known as Pioneers, etc., with the slogan, "Cherish Health, Seek Truth, Love God, and Serve Others." Pioneers are further divided for purposes of training at the age of 13, the younger groups being known as Pioneers-in-Training. Most clubs have also a junior group for those under 11. Like Girl Guides with their patrols, Pioneers often work in small groups with their own distinctive names, *e.g.* "The Explorers," but this method is elastic and if it does not appeal to the girls it is discarded. Unfortunately, while there has been an increase in the numbers of all other sections, that of the Pioneers has shown a decrease of about 600 during the last year.¹ The Y.W.C.A. is affiliated to the Girl Guides Association, and Girl Guide Companies are included in the Pioneer section. There are 73 Girl Guide Companies, 45 Ranger Companies and 62 Brownie Packs associated with the Y.W.C.A.

While the Y.W.C.A. Club is "open" in the sense that girls of any denomination or occupation are welcomed, yet it has perhaps the disadvantages of its good qualities. In many cases the rougher type of girl feels that it is not her club. It may be that the name Y.W.C.A. keeps out certain girls or that the activities offered are too highly organ-

¹ A recent enquiry into the causes of this decrease revealed the fact that a different method of computing the statistics had led to some confusion, and that the membership of the Pioneer group was in fact almost stationary.

ised for her taste. Whenever the membership is a varied one, there is a good spirit of fellowship, and maids, business girls, and factory workers mix happily together. When a club is set down in a very poor area and the membership fees are low (as in Hunslett, Leeds), then it serves the high-spirited manual worker in larger proportion. Inter-club activities are a feature of the all-round nature of their work, and each division organises competitions for educational and athletic work.

It remains to be said that the Y.W.C.A. organises special departments at Headquarters, such as the Education Department, the Industrial Law Bureau, and the Publications Department, which are open not only to members but to non-members of the Association.

II. OTHER NATIONAL YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

1.—BRITISH CAMP FIRE GIRLS

THE Camp Fire Girls' Movement started in America in 1912, and then spread to other countries. The British Camp Fire Girls have now 157 Camp Fire Groups, and 44 Junior Groups (under 11) known as "Bluebirds," with a total membership of approximately 2500 girls. They are represented in 20 English counties, in which Middlesex and Essex (including London) account for over 40 per cent. and Staffordshire for 22 per cent. of the total.

Most of the groups are attached to Churches; each group, consisting of at least 6 and not more than 20 members, has a Guardian who directs the Camp Fire. The members, according to their age and experience in the craft, pass through various "ranks" as Runners, Fire-Makers, and Torch-Bearers. Camping and woodcraft lore naturally play a prominent part in the summer activities.

A system of Honours, awarded by the Guardians, in homecraft, health craft, handicraft, nature craft, business, and citizenship is planned to keep up a high standard of work, and strong emphasis is placed on the idea of service in all Camp Fire activities. The watchword "Wohelo" sums up the aim of the movement as "Work, Health, Love." The girls wear a uniform consisting of a tussore-coloured middie jumper, dark brown skirt, dark brown tie, and plain dark brown hat. In addition a ceremonial gown is a distinctive feature of their uniform; with its beads and other decorations, leather fringe, and the mocassins worn with it, it is like a Red Indian's robe. All girls are encouraged to make and embroider their own uniform whenever possible.

While this movement has some affinity with the Girl Guide Movement, *e.g.* in its woodcraft and camping and its system of honours (badges), it is very differently organised. Nearly every activity is presented in a highly ceremonial form, and symbol and ritual play a large part in the weekly programme. It has a special appeal to the girl who loves elaborate ritual and ceremony, whereas the Girl Guide Movement is more simply organised, with, perhaps, a more general appeal.

Some very successful Camp Fire Groups are run in the poorest districts often in connection with a Mission, but many groups draw their membership from secondary school girls.

A questionnaire sent in from one of the poorer groups attached to a Friends' Hall (Quakers) in London gives as its aim, "to give the girl a good time, and while so doing, to help her to realise that woman has a distinctive part to play in the world, and to help her so to develop her personality that she may make the best possible contribution to the life of the home, the nation and the world" (recommended as summing up the purpose of Camp Fire).

2.—THE CHURCH GIRLS' BRIGADE

The Church Girls' Brigade has as its object "the advancement of Christ's Kingdom among girls of all classes: the promotion of Charity, Reverence, Patriotism, and all that tends towards forming the Christian character." The Incumbent, whose consent must be obtained before a company is started, appoints the officers and either holds the post of Chaplain to the Company himself, or appoints another Priest in his stead. The total membership (1933) is approximately 4992, with strongest representation in the North-West (comprising the Manchester area and a small part of Cheshire)—4068. The North-East has 523, and London and Home Counties 328 members. Other isolated companies in Norfolk, Stafford, and Berkshire have a membership totalling 73. There are at present no companies in Wales. The secretary writes:

"Actually the Church Girls' Brigade is the oldest organisation of its kind in the country, but it has not been doing well for a few years, and in 1933 the whole Brigade was reawakened, and the proper supervision of the Companies was undertaken. The figures given above are the actual returns received from the companies in 1933. The returns for 1934 are not yet received from several companies, but as a rough estimate I should calculate we have increased our membership by about 1000 members, for 26 new companies have been formed in the twelve months. And all of these new companies have been formed in densely crowded districts, and the equipment supplied from the General Headquarters would mean that this number has been supplied."

The constitution is similar to that of the brother organisation, the Church Lads' Brigade—a definitely religious body—all of whose members must belong to the Church of England, and attend Bible Classes or Sunday School or other suitable religious exercise.

For convenience of instruction the Brigade is divided into two sections: Training Corps, ages 9 to 14 years, and Members, ages 14 years and upwards. The company work, like that of similar organisations (*cf.* the G.L.B. and Girl Guides), includes company drill, first-aid and signalling, and other activities such as dressmaking, cookery, singing, dramatics, etc., are introduced. Band instruction is a feature of the programme, and several companies have good Drum and Fife Bands.

A Divisional Camp is run in the summer, which is joined by members from companies in various parts of the country.

The uniform is similar to that of a girl guide, with the addition of sashes worn across each shoulder, and white gloves. The broad-brimmed hat is worn turned up on one side. Full uniform is only worn at the drill and ambulance classes and on other specially authorised occasions. At other times a woollen jersey and navy-blue skirt are worn.

3.—THE CHRISTIAN ALLIANCE OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

The C.A.W.G. broke away from the Y.W.C.A. in 1920 because it wished to stress the original Evangelical basis of the society. It disagreed with the development of a broader policy, particularly in the attitude towards recreation. The Charter of Constitution carefully defines this attitude :

“The Alliance would encourage a wide programme for education and recreation, which should include such up-to-date methods as all forms of organised games, sports, musical and other drill. The Alliance, however, is convinced that in its activities, such secular amusements as dancing, card playing, smoking and theatricals are not compatible with its AIM, and cannot therefore be included within the scope of the work of the Alliance ” (Article 6).

The Association strives “to win the girl for Christ during her leisure hours amid home-like surroundings.” To carry out this purpose many of the branches have their headquarters in a house equipped with bright furnishings, and made comfortable and attractive to the lonely girl. The members can prepare their own light meals in the kitchen, and this, together with the home-like atmosphere, is a boon to girls in residential domestic service, or to nurses who are far from their friends and relatives, especially as most branches are open on Sundays.

Membership of C.A.W.G. has a special appeal for the girl who is moved by the Evangelical call, and the greatest joy of a leader is to know that her Branch is a potential centre for a spiritual revival in the district.

There are to-day some 200 Branches throughout the country with a membership of approximately 15,000; this includes Seniors (the largest section), Intermediate, and Juniors, as well as Girl Guide Companies and Messenger Corps.

4.—CHILDREN'S CIRCLES AND WOODCRAFTERS

The Education Committees of the various Co-operative Societies over the country organise Children's Circles¹ which are run very much on the lines of social and recreational clubs. They are grouped according to age—under 12, 12-16 (Children's Circles), and 16-21 (Comrades' Circles). All of them are mixed, the boys and girls combining for such activities as singing, indoor games, country dancing, and some handicrafts, such as rug-making, while each has its own athletic section.

¹ See footnote, p. 16.

Some groups are members of the "Woodcraft Folk,"¹ described as "an educational movement containing children and adults, based on an organisation of Fellowships and Lodges." They emphasise the joys of camping out and "living in close contact with nature."

Another group which emphasises the importance of "first-hand contact with nature," is "The Order of Woodcraft Chivalry."¹ Like the Woodcraft Folk, too, they urge these activities as preparation for communal responsibility and service for the commonweal.

5.—THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE

The Fellowship of the Knights of the Round Table¹ is based on the chivalry of the Arthurian Legend. It is elaborate in its ritual and pilgrims pass on their journey through various ceremonial tests from the time of Preparation to Knighthood. Honourable Degrees, symbolic of knightly qualities, are awarded to those who perform the appropriate acts of service. The movement is centred in Tintagel, but "Branch Round Tables" may be formed in any part of the country.

6.—THE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION

The Girl Guides Association is the most widespread and has the largest membership of all the uniformed organisations. Since the days, years ago, when girls were thrilled by the Scout Movement and formed themselves into "Troops," when the initiation of the Girl Guide Movement was forced upon the somewhat unwilling elders by their importunity, the movement has continued to fire the imagination of girls the world over, until they have far outstripped the brother movement both in numbers and in rate of progress.

In England and Wales 1933-34 there were :

	Guides	Brownies	Rangers (incl. Sea and Cadet Rangers)	Lones and Extensions
England .	240,027	155,602	50,056	8213
Wales .	12,436	7,188	1,539	129

The number of Commissioners, Guiders, and Secretaries were : England, 40,819 ; Wales, 2010. There was a marked increase seen over the 1932-33 figures in every branch except Rangers.

The movement has a strong Central Organisation and the country is divided territorially into County, Division, and District, each with its own Commissioner, etc. The activities are based on a method common to all companies, the outstanding feature of which is the "Patrol" system. The spirit of adventure is fostered by woodcraft and camping activities ; education is given largely through recreation,

¹ It was not found possible to get statistics of membership of these organisations. The Children's Circles are not centrally organised, and the other groups do not make public their statistics.

and teaching games play a prominent part in a company programme. Serious work is encouraged in preparation for the badge "tests," which cover many varieties of hobby and useful arts.

The discipline and order of the Girl Guide Company meeting, together with its uniform and occasional ceremony, have a greater appeal for some girls than the more informal, often noisier, club meeting. On the other hand, there are many girls who are repelled by these very characteristics, and they find more opportunities for freedom of expression in the club meeting. Each type of youth organisation would seem to appeal on the whole to girls of different temperament, though sometimes girls are members of both groups. That each fulfils a special function is illustrated by the success of the G.G. companies associated with youth organisations, such as the G.F.S., Y.W.C.A., C.A.W.G., and many Church companies.

It would seem to be essentially a movement to appeal to the younger girl. The Patrol system, encouraging working in small groups, is ideally suited to the girl of school age. But there comes a time, usually after the girl has gone out to work, or when she has a boy friend, when she is somewhat self-conscious in her uniform and Guide activities have no longer the same appeal. The section for Seniors, known as Rangers (16 years and over), has never had the same flourishing existence, although the play stage of preparation gives place to the reality of service as an ideal.

The Brownies' section for those between 7 and 11 years of age appeals to the make-believe and love of adventure common to younger children, while many of the activities prepare them for the time when they "fly up" into the Girl Guides section.

The success of the movement in attracting voluntary leadership has been largely due to its well-established system of training. About 100 High Schools have Guides, Rangers, or Brownies, and 24 have Cadet Ranger Companies for those definitely training to be Guiders. For those who have not been in touch with Guiding most Divisions organise training courses, either a regular course involving a meeting once a week or a concentrated week or two weeks' training at regular intervals. Two National Training Centres at Foxlease and Waddow Hall give opportunities for refresher courses, which are of great value in keeping the movement young and full of vitality.

In this way would-be leaders know what is expected of them, and they have the opportunity of training before they are plunged into the work. Possibly too, the discipline inherent in Guide organisation makes it a simpler matter to lead a Guide Company than to run an "open" club.

The outstanding feature of the movement is perhaps the breadth of its appeal. That it can be happily associated with a Catholic or an Evangelical Church or with a Synagogue, or established in a High School or Orphan Home or in an "Approved School," is significant of the soundness of its work and the vision which inspires it.

7.—THE NATIONAL HOME FIRE GIRLS' ASSOCIATION

This association was founded in Cardiff, mainly for girls between 12 and 15 years of age, in order "to make the many sides of home life worth while to the growing girl." Its motto is "Follow the Christ: the King: Live Pure, Speak True, Right Wrong." Each group is known as a "Hearth" and the leader is "Hearth Mother" with "Helpers" and "Daughters" to assist her. A ceremonial opening to an evening programme gives place to sectional work, which includes "work of any type which will make a home a happier place, though any form of sectional work may be taken with advantage." Games and stories follow the more serious work, and sometimes there is a talk or discussion before the evening ends with the Closing Ceremony. Honours, awarded by the Hearth Mothers for good work in the Sectional tests, culminate in the Home-fire Symbol. Ceremonies for special occasions, with symbolic ritual, are a feature of the activities of the Hearth.

A Junior Section, known as Home Fire Fairies (ages 8-12 years), is run on play lines with the Hiawatha motto, "Hands and hearts that work together—Feet that run on willing errands." A Senior Hearth may be formed in which Hearth ceremonial and sectional work give place to a more informal gathering, where "a cosy room, a warm welcome, a simple opening service (hymn and prayer), followed by sewing, reading, knitting, or embroidery, a cup of tea and a bun, and social intercourse is more to her liking." Service, especially for Sunday School or Mission Church, is encouraged in this section. The summer months are given over largely to outdoor work and play, including swimming, rambles, and games.

This movement has a total membership of approximately 1200. It is centred largely in Sheffield, with a membership of 800, and with sections in 12 other districts. The last ten years have seen a more or less stationary membership. This is attributed largely to the difficulty of finding leaders to extend the work, which is entirely voluntary. (There is no salaried national secretary.)

8.—THE REGNAL LEAGUE

The Regnal League, like Toc H, grew out of the wartime comradeship of men in the trenches. In 1919 a Women's branch was formed, and there are now some 4000 members in 75 Branches scattered over Great Britain. It is a youth movement with a strong religious basis, admitting girls and women over the age of 16. Recently a Girls' Circle of the League has been formed for younger members between 11 and 15 years of age. About 20 of these circles exist, having a membership of approximately 300. There is no official uniform, but the wearing of gym. slips is strongly recommended, with the circle badge (a blue centre with a green outer circle) as sign of membership. The motto is "Ready for Service."

The Regnal League is interdenominational, and most branches are attached to a Church or Chapel, but "some of the best circles are those in which members of the Church of England and Nonconformists freely mix." A ceremonial initiation admits the new member, and she takes a vow of loyalty to the "Circle of Fellowship." An all-round programme of activities is encouraged, aiming at physical, mental, and spiritual development.

9.—THE SHAFTESBURY SOCIETY

"The Shaftesbury Society and Ragged School Union," founded in 1844, still carries on extensive work for poor children, particularly in the slum areas of large towns. Its basis is religious, "To work for Child Welfare, Social Reconstruction, and the Kingdom of God." It seeks, among other things, "to help working lads and girls and to train senior scholars as workers; to promote wholesome literature and recreation, thrift and temperance." Many of its Missions run Clubs for boys and girls, and, where possible, educational as well as social and recreational activities are introduced. These are encouraged by annual competitions in physical training, singing, and hobbies.

There are 185 Associated Missions of the Society, which run a total of 416 Institutes, Recreation Classes, etc., with an average weekly attendance of about 13,000 young people. (There are also 160 weekly Women's Meetings, with an average attendance of 14,000.) It is interesting to note the strength of the youth organisations associated with the Missions—some 400 companies of Girl Guides, Girls' Life Brigades, Girls' Guildry, etc., with a total of 11,000 members.

A special feature of the work of the Shaftesbury Society is its support of Cripple Parlours or Play Centres. "Cripple Parlours¹ differ in some ways, in almost every district, some giving their main attention to the handicraft classes, others contenting themselves with the activities of the play centres. In one respect, however, they are uniform, in that some simple and suitable religious exercises invariably bring the gathering to a close and create the spiritual atmosphere by which they are surrounded." Much thought is given to the conduct of the Cripple Parlours, that they may be real Social Centres with a home-like atmosphere. The training of crippled children in self-expression is carefully planned, since it is recognised that they are often indulged in their own homes; they crave for constant variety and have never acquired the power of concentration. Handicrafts of various kinds, singing and organised games, are amongst the interests fostered, while toys and games are freely at the children's disposal.

For the older members a Guild of Fellowship is formed, partaking largely of the nature of a club where there is opportunity for friendly talk, music, and games. Separate Guilds are formed for the older lads and the girls. Members' Committees are encouraged to help run a Thrift Club, Benevolent Club, Lending Library, Magazine, Holiday

¹ Statistics of membership are not available.

Fund, and Orchestra. Lectures and Talks are arranged, and light refreshment served at cost price. The Guild acts not only as a club, but as a centre for help and advice (*e.g.* with regard to medical and hospital treatment, the supply of surgical instruments, and arrangements for holidays.) It is customary for every club meeting to end with family prayers. Every effort is made to keep the centres light and warm, and to have good pictures on the walls, for it is recognised that a bright and cheery atmosphere is essential if good work is to be done.

Besides its 140 missionaries and deaconesses this society has the services of some 5800 voluntary workers in its many varied activities.

10.—WAYFARERS' SUNDAY ASSOCIATION

The foundation of the Wayfarers' Association in 1928 was inspired by the recognition of the need for Sunday Clubs for girls and youths, especially in London and the large towns where so many young people work far from their own homes. The centres have also been found to fulfil a need for many other young people who, either through lack of money, or opportunity, fail to find "something to do" on a Sunday. "Wayfarers" are enrolled on making the two promises to "help lonely people" and to "Keep the Rule" (founded on 1 Corinthians xiii.).

In this experiment of running "mixed clubs" it is interesting to see what methods have been found most practicable by the Wayfarers' Council. Girls only may be enrolled as members, but they may introduce boy friends. This has proved so acceptable a practice that it has been found difficult in some centres to restrict the number of boys. A working rule has been formulated that the number of boys using the centre should not exceed half the average number of girls. Members may bring friends to see the club. They must ask permission to introduce as members girls whose homes are in the town, but they may give invitations without notification to any girl who is away from home.

Girls, but not boys, pay a subscription of 3d. a month, but boys may offer donations or help to raise funds by socials, etc. There is a girls' committee, known as a Bodyguard, proposed and seconded by the members, and appointed, if approved, by the President of the Centre (*i.e.* the leader). They make themselves responsible for the discipline of the centre, but are not in the ordinary sense a members' committee since they have no regular meetings and are summoned *ad hoc* by the Centre President or by a Bodyguard member (after obtaining the Centre President's permission). Boys who have been introduced to the centre and have proved themselves good Wayfarers may ask to be put on the Visitors' "Service Corps." They may then be summoned to meetings of the Bodyguard.

There are at present 9 centres, most of which are in London. Since the membership of many centres is a "floating" one, it is difficult to give statistics, but it is estimated that the total in London exceeds 1000. In one London centre alone the membership is 500. In the country as a whole there are approximately 2000 Wayfarers.

All centres are open every Sunday from 3.30 to 9.30 P.M. "The aim is that members should have a really happy home in the centres, and that through their membership their aims and ideals of happiness should be constantly enlarged and heightened." It is hoped that they will be brought in touch with Christian influence through club membership. A typical Sunday programme gives an idea of the opportunities which are offered to Wayfarers at any time between 3.30 and 9.30, when they care to drop in. 3.45-5, Dance Music; 5-5.30, Tea; 5.30-6, Music and Dancing; 6-7.15, Games; 7.15-8.15, Community Singing, five-minutes Talk and Hymn; 8.15-8.30, Supper; 8.30-9.30, Music.

The Wayfarers' Association feels the urgent need for further development in London and for expansion in other large towns. But so far the whole of the organisation and propaganda work and most of the financing has been undertaken by the Founder President, Mrs Maurice M. Bear. Any future development of the provision for Sunday Leisure on Wayfarers' lines depends upon the support given by a wide public.

11.—THE YOUTH HOSTELS ASSOCIATION

The Youth Hostels Association is a modern movement which has made a great appeal to young men and women all over the country, and membership is rapidly increasing every year. The increase of 9279 in 1934 was $33\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. over that of the previous year. Of the total membership of approximately 40,000, it is estimated that about one-third are women and two-thirds men. Over 70 per cent. are under 25 years of age.

The urge to seek the countryside is evident in most youth organisations, and "mixed" rambles are taking an increasing part in club activities. This movement towards the open air has received a great impetus from the foundation of the Y.H.A., and many National Organisations are affiliated to it (including the N.C.G.C.). It is doubtful, however, whether the movement has penetrated through to club members as far as it might, and a closer link between clubs and the Y.H.A. branches would be of great value in the development of wider interests. A rough estimate of occupational membership of the Y.H.A. puts one-third as manual workers, one-half of the "black-coat" group, and the remaining fraction as of the student-university type.

Although its main object is "to help all, but especially young people, to a greater knowledge, care, and love of the countryside, particularly providing hostels or other simple accommodation for them on their travels," its members meet for other social and recreational activities, *e.g.* the London Regional Group has arranged a Christmas party, a dance, a social, a lantern lecture, and a photographic competition.

It should be added that the Y.H.A. attaches great importance to the international side of its work in bringing together the young people of various countries.

III. NATIONAL MOVEMENTS IN WHICH RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES PLAY A REGULAR THOUGH SECONDARY PART

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS

A YOUNG FARMERS' CLUB is described as "A group of boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 21, banded together with the common object of caring for some living thing—a calf, a pig, chickens, or plants in a garden plot. In pursuance of this common object, each member undertakes to care personally for the stock or plants allotted, to keep accurate records, to attend the meetings, and to take part in all the organised activities of the club. . . . It is essential to emphasise the fact that each member is taught to regard the task undertaken as a business enterprise and not, as is sometimes thought, a pleasant spare-time hobby."

But while this is the main purpose, yet social and recreational activities are by no means neglected. Whist drives, dances, and socials are popular activities, and some clubs have started dramatic work. Clubs are being encouraged to take an active interest in the exploration and preservation of the neighbourhood. A feature of the club development is its training in self-government. The young members elect their chairman, secretary, and treasurer, and conduct their own meetings. Both boys and girls share in these duties, a girl commonly acting as secretary and quite often as chairman of the club. An adult acts as club leader, and there is also a small adult advisory committee, usually consisting of representatives of local landowners, farmers, and other interested persons. One club was formed in connection with a Women's Institute.

There are about 200 clubs in England and Wales with a total membership of approximately 4000. A recent census of junior and senior membership showed that about 47 per cent. were juniors (between 10 and 15 years of age) and 53 per cent. seniors (16 years and over). Of the forty counties in which clubs have been formed, Devon, Yorkshire, and Durham are strongest in the number of clubs (20 or more each), while Somerset, Essex, and Northumberland follow closely. "Counties in which clubs are strongest are usually those where the rearing of stock or the production of milk or poultry is a predominating feature"; but clubs are by no means confined to rural areas. Many are attached to elementary schools in small towns (this accounts for the greater part of the junior membership), and one is to be found in the heart of London at a secondary school, where bee-keeping and horticulture arouse keen enthusiasm. Clubs in rural areas draw their membership for the most part from the sons and daughters of farmers.

The Federation has had the financial support of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust. The clubs locally receive advisory help and guidance from many of the Agricultural Education Committees and branches of the National Farmers' Union.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION YOUTH GROUPS

The Youth Groups of the L.N.U. have been founded to promote international peace and co-operation by stimulating youth to take an active and constructive share in the work. Stress is laid on the need for recruiting members between 16 and 30 who will bring their particular ability to the service of the Union and not remain merely nominal members. For this purpose an Active Service Secretary is appointed by the group. Individuals are made responsible for different types of work. In large groups sub-committees for publicity, for hospitality, for libraries, for study circles, etc., and a panel for speakers give scope for service of many kinds. Those who have not gifts in these directions are urged to share in the routine work of distribution of literature, stewarding at meetings, etc. "A member who begins to work soon comes to feel a personal interest in the Group and gets permeated with its ideals." It is considered an important part of the movement that youths and girls work together towards the fulfilment of their ideals. They also share in many social and recreational activities; the list of sub-committees is not complete without that for social activities and rambles. The Headquarters Secretary is ready to help arrange camping holidays in England, *e.g.* at the L.N.U. camp site in the New Forest where a Peace Camp is held; members are put in touch with opportunities for travelling abroad, and correspondence between youth at home and abroad may be stimulated by the formation within a group of a correspondence circle.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS PIONEERS

The League of Nations Union has formed 1326 School Branches and 96 District Junior Branches (for boys and girls under 16). The members, together with 35,000 boys and girls who have registered individually, are known as League of Nations Pioneers. Each branch plans its own programme, in which activities concerned with international friendship play a prominent part, *e.g.* study circles and international correspondence, model League Assemblies, the organisation of international exhibitions and pageants, etc. (one group of girls took great interest in dressing dolls in the costumes of other lands). In the summer, camps are held in the New Forest, where Pioneers work and play under foreign leaders. Besides the opportunity for discussions, etc., games, songs, national dances, and camp craft play a large part in the success of the venture.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S ADULT SCHOOL

Two movements, the National Adult School Union and the Workers' Educational Association, which are primarily concerned with adult education, hold some attraction for younger members, and recreation plays a part in their activities.

The National Adult School Union, whose work is built on a definitely Christian basis, has about 75 Young People's Schools scattered over the country, with a Young People's Committee in each County Union and with representation on the National Council. An Adult School is "A Fellowship of men or women formed for the purpose of Education and Mutual Helpfulness. There is no test for membership. All who are willing to join are welcome. Each School endeavours to bind its members together by the Power of Friendship. The members of a School may belong to any denomination or party, or to none." They seek not only to develop personality but to encourage social service for the community.

The Young People's Schools share these ideals, and since they are self-governing groups with a representative membership drawn from young people in various occupations, their programmes are arranged according to the individual group requirements. Many of the schools are mixed (girls and youths). In addition to Biblical and religious study, debates and lectures, dramatic work, athletic activities and rambles, and social evenings play their part in the fellowship of the groups. A library and book club are sometimes associated with the Schools. In 1934, of a total membership of 37,265 in Adult Schools, the composition of the various schools was as follows: 11,859 men, 18,683 women, 4839 in mixed groups, and 1884 in Young People's groups.

THE WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION AND JUNIOR MEMBERS

The W.E.A. is essentially an adult movement, but while the average age of students throughout the country is 40 to 45, there is a good sprinkling of younger members in some districts, though very few students are under 21. (Staffordshire has an average age membership of 30 to 35.) In some areas an effort has been made to interest the older members of clubs in adult education, and speakers have given talks which have sometimes expanded to a short course of lectures (*e.g.* Oxford). In Exeter the younger members of the W.E.A. are active, and, in addition to the usual "classes" and "finance" committees, there is a social sub-committee and a drama sub-committee. Social evenings and musical evenings are arranged, and rambles take a prominent place in the outdoor summer activities, while the Branch enters for the National Drama Festival. London has a special scheme for arranging talks and short courses for such organisations as Clubs, Rover Scouts, Rangers, League of Nations Youth Groups, and Junior Political Organisations, and provides tutors for over 200 talks a year to these groups.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE WORKERS' TRAVEL ASSOCIATION

An interesting development of recent growth is that of the Fellowship associated with the Workers' Travel Association. It is open to members of the W.T.A. and to all those in sympathy with its aims and ideals who desire to meet from time to time for social, recreational and educational purposes, and to further the aims and objects of the Association. Educational and recreational activities are arranged, as well as social events and W.T.A. re-unions. Each Fellowship is autonomous and self-supporting, but its constitution must be submitted to the W.T.A. for approval. Classes and study circles are in demand, particularly for the study of languages, and lecture courses and travel talks are given throughout the autumn and winter.

The W.T.A. is a tourist or travel organisation without the usual commercial motive of profit, and it has as its basis the ideal of building up International Friendships. On the whole, in spite of the opportunity to join the Savings Schemes towards next year's holiday, not many young people under 21 can afford to become members, but many more between 20 and 30 take part in its benefits.

JUNIOR RED CROSS

The National Red Cross Society encourages the development of Junior work not by the formation of Junior units or sections, but by collaboration with other youth organisations. Co-operation is particularly active in the schools, but boys and girls in Scout troops and Girl Guide companies or clubs, etc., may be enrolled as members of a "Link" of the Junior Red Cross "to join with others all over the world in keeping the Health Laws and in helping the Sick and Suffering." Detailed programmes are worked out by the headquarters of the National Red Cross Society suitable for various age groups from (1) 6 to 10 years; (2) 10 or 12 to 14 or 16 years; (3) 14 or 16 to 18 or 20 years. The ideals of the movement are taught through games, physical training, drama, stories, etc., as well as by more formal study. Great importance is attached to the uniting of youth throughout the world in a chain of service. The Junior Branch is active in 49 other countries, and international co-operation is encouraged by correspondence between members in various countries, and specimens of handicrafts and descriptions of activities from many parts of the world now form an interesting collection at headquarters.

ST JOHN'S AMBULANCE BRIGADE

The Brigade has a section for "cadets" between 10 and 16 years of age, together with a section for "ambulance sisters" between 16 and 40 years. Their chief object is training for ambulance work, but some cadet groups have club meetings with the usual recreational and

social activities. In many areas the work of the St John's Brigade appeals particularly to working girls; *e.g.* a unit of the St John's Ambulance Brigade which is affiliated to the Stoke-on-Trent Union of Girls' Clubs, where the majority of the members work in the potteries and attend their Brigade meetings in the evenings. Besides the lectures associated with First Aid, Home Nursing, Sick Nursing, etc., they have music and indoor games (table tennis, etc.). Rambles, concerts, and socials are held, sometimes in association with other Brigade units or with Girls' Clubs in the Union. A group summer holiday completes the year's programme.

JUNIOR TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES

The Independent Order of Rechabites.—The chief function of this order is that of a "Total Abstiners' Friendly Society," and special benefits and endowment schemes are drawn up for the Juvenile section. The ideals of the order are based on the 35th chapter of Jeremiah, and the groups are organised in "Tents." The Junior tents are often associated with a church or chapel, and sometimes run on club lines with a variety of interests. The groups are mixed (boys and girls), and festivals and competitions are organised on mass lines in various parts of the country.

The Band of Hope Union.—The Band of Hope Union is a Juvenile Temperance Organisation working through Churches and Sunday Schools scattered throughout the country. Most of its activities are concerned with training, by lectures and films, etc., in temperance ideals, but social and recreational evenings are organised in many groups. The affiliated Unions organise competitions in which singing and recitations appear to play the most prominent part, and the May Festival is generally an occasion of note in Union functions. This ceremony, in which a young girl is crowned as May Queen, is a continuation of an old custom by a society which has its roots in the past. There are, however, indications of the vitality of the society in many churches, and some groups are striving to bring their methods up to date to meet the all-round needs of boys and girls.

A similar movement which is mainly concerned with the ideals of temperance, but in which social and recreational activities are fostered in varying degrees in different localities, is the *Junior British Women's Temperance Association*.

That the various temperance organisations still make an appeal to many people is illustrated by a quotation from a report of a census made by the Quakers in 1928 of the week-night activities of young people: "It was found that the most popular form of service seemed to be through Temperance meetings. . . . Most of these groups have the advantage of being linked up with a national or world-wide organisation, thus helping the children to feel themselves part of a large whole, and so widen their outlook on life."

JUNIOR POLITICAL ORGANISATIONS¹

While the main purpose of a Junior Political League is to act as a recruiting ground for the respective political parties and to prepare the members to play an active part in the parent organisation later, yet in fact recreational and social gatherings are prominent features of their work. For this reason, whatever the opinion may be regarding the presentation of a biased interpretation of facts to young people at an impressionable age, Junior Political Groups cannot be ignored in a consideration of the recreational facilities available.

While some are fervently working for "the cause," others are more enthusiastic for the dance. The Social is a popular meeting-ground for both sexes, and organised rambles, tennis matches, and dramatic performances are common features of these young people's groups. In some districts they offer the only opportunity for "mixed" activities of this nature. Occasionally challenges are sent to rival political groups, and debates are arranged, but generally there is little intercourse between the opposing forces.

The Conservative party has a widespread organisation in its Junior Imperial League. The Junior Branch of the Primrose League has its intermediates of 16 to 21 and its "Primrose Buds" of 4 to 16 years of age. Some of the Women's Conservative organisations run weekly meetings for children known as the "Young Britons."

The "Guild of Youth" is the Junior League of the Independent Labour Party. For the Labour Party the "League of Youth" is making a great drive to secure the enthusiastic support of girls and youths between 16 and 25, and in many towns a strong nucleus is working. Week-end holiday courses are often arranged, and a young organising secretary at headquarters encourages the development of the work. A section for younger members from 14 to 16 is provided for in the Constitution, but these are not eligible to attend ward meetings of the local Labour Party as are those over 16.

In some districts "the Socialist Sunday School, apart from its Sunday ethical teaching, has associated with it rambling, swimming, cricket and football clubs. There are also sub-sections for dramatics, handicrafts, needlework and folk-dancing." (See the survey of Becontree and Dagenham, by Terence Young, page 192.)

The Liberal Party, too, has its Junior Branch for Young Liberals, with a similar range of activities. In some districts where no other "open" club is available, social workers introduce lonely girls to a junior political club if there is a healthy atmosphere. (Occasionally this is not so if a licence is held and intoxicating drink served.) In most of these societies (except in the young children's sections) the average age would appear to be over 18 years.

¹ It has not been possible to discover how far the Fascist and Communist Parties organise activities specially for younger members.

IV. RELIGIOUS ORGANISATIONS AND YOUTH¹

FROM early days the Churches² have played an important part in leisure-time activities. In the Middle Ages plays and pageants and festival holidays were part of the life of the people. Later, the Churches were active in providing education, and many, through their Church Fellowships, offered the only opportunities for social life.

Whereas in the past the Church was almost alone in the field, to-day the State offers many services, including a general system of education; voluntary organisations working for social welfare have multiplied; while commercial enterprise has leapt into prominence with its mass provision of entertainment. What is the attitude of the Churches to-day in the face of these developments, particularly in regard to the provision of social facilities for young people?

One fact seems to emerge with regard to all religious denominations: that there is no acknowledged central policy, but a great variation according to the attitude of the local clergy and congregations in different parts of the country. There would seem to be three broad divisions of opinion, common to most denominations. There are those who feel that the Church is there to serve the neighbourhood, and that any social activities run in connection with the Church should be open to all who wish to enter. Such Churches have "open" clubs for the youth of the district and do not make attendance at church a condition of club membership. They hope that the spiritual life of the Church may penetrate all its work, but social activities are not run primarily as recruiting grounds for Church membership.

Others regard the social activities of the Church as "the outward expression of the fellowship and life in the Church." As such, The Fellowship is essentially a bond between Church members; those outside the Church would be out of place in their midst. It is not considered to be part of the Church's work to spend its energies in the provision of social activities for the neighbourhood at large. Its peculiar province is the "spiritual welfare" of its congregation. The test of membership for a club or guild may be attendance at a Bible Class, or Church membership (*e.g.* for communicants only).

Between these two are the "Institutional Churches," which believe that the promotion of social activities, especially for young people, is the best means of binding together their members in a fellowship of loyalty to the Church. They also hope to draw into Church life many who might otherwise remain outside. Sometimes a stipulation is made that any group—*e.g.* a football club—associated with the Church must have a certain percentage who are Church members; otherwise Church

¹ "Religious Organisations" include Christian and Jewish groups.

² The term "Church" is used in the wide sense to include Churches and Chapels of all denominations.

funds may be used without any recognition of responsibility or loyalty to the Church.

In some areas there is a happy spirit of co-operation between the Churches of various denominations. The Clergy and Ministers meet in a Council to work for the social welfare of the district. In others we find little effort to make contacts of this kind, and the work of the Churches is definitely "parochial." Similarly we find great variation in the attitude of the Churches towards youth organisations run by other societies. There is still a tendency in many places to look on them as rivals who may draw away the allegiance of their own young people. There is no co-operation, and such Church groups fear to unite with a local Juvenile Organisations Committee or Club Union. It seems, however, to be becoming more generally recognised that a wider sphere of interest brings strength rather than weakness to the individual units. In Liverpool the Bishop has appointed a social secretary whose aim is to act as liaison officer between various organisations working for children's welfare. In all the Club Unions affiliated to the National Council of Girls' Clubs, Church Clubs form a large proportion of the membership.

For boys and girls of their congregations the Churches encourage the youth organisations of the National Societies to establish units within the Church. In the Girl Guide Movement there are Church of England Companies, Free Church Companies, Roman Catholic Companies, and Jewish Companies. The Girls' Life Brigade is associated largely with the Free Churches, although there are a few Church of England Companies. The Girls' Friendly Society is organised on a Diocesan basis, and the Church Girls' Brigade is a smaller movement attached to the Church of England. Girls' Guildry and Camp Fire Companies and Regnal Leagues are associated with Churches of various denominations. All these groups are organised nationally, but there is usually a strong parochial loyalty too; most of the units meet for Church Parades or for Sunday Classes; many of them help in the efforts to raise funds at Church bazaars and fêtes; all of them use the hall or other Church premises for their company meetings, sometimes paying a subscription towards cost of rent, light and heat, but often having free use for one evening or part of one evening a week. The premises of Church Schools are often used for recreational activities in the evenings, when most of the members are recruited from old girls of the school.

Many Churches have, in addition to numerous sports clubs, dramatic clubs, etc., Guilds or Fellowships for their older girls and youths. Most of these are mixed groups, and they are usually organised and planned by the Young People's Committee. Each Church group is self-contained, and while it may send reports of its activities to the Denominational Headquarters, it is not bound to do so: *e.g.* the Congregational Churches are generally strong in the development of Young People's Fellowships, but, short of visiting every Church in a locality, it is difficult to say just how extensive the work is.

A programme for one session of a Young People's Fellowship Guild

will illustrate the nature of the activities in many youth organisations within the Churches :

- (1) Annual General Meeting—reports on Y.P.F. activities and election of officers.
- (2) Opening social.
- (3) Lantern lecture, "How London's Tube Railways are made."
- (4) Discussion evening—A speaker on the need for Missionary Enterprise will invite discussion and opposition (if any).
- (5) Lecture by Local Mayor on "Our Civic Responsibilities."
- (6) A doctor speaks on "Hospital Life."
- (7) Grand Supper.
- (8) Lantern lecture, "Bavaria, the Land of the Passion Play."
- (9) Entertainment given to the Mothers of the Home Church Mission.
- (10) A talk by an M.P. on "Our National Responsibilities."
- (11) A Literary evening.
- (12) A social evening—the President (Church Minister) is the "Guest of the evening."
- (13) A talk on "Our International Responsibilities."
- (14) A Christmas Supper.
- (15) No meeting.
- (16) An address on "Pacificism"—discussion invited.
- (17) Some hints on Tennis by a County Coach.
- (18) Service arranged by Toc H.
- (19) Lecture by a former prison chaplain on "Convict Life in Dartmoor Prison."
- (20) A Parliamentary Debate.
- (21) Address by a neighbouring Minister on "Is Christianity Failing?"
- (22) An M.P. speaks on some industrial questions.
- (23) Lantern Lecture by the Secretary of the Kodak Fellowship on "The Passing Pageant." (Judge in the Y.P.F. Snapshot Competition.)
- (24) Musical evening—by Young People's Orchestra and Church Choir, plus individual items.
- (25) Address by well-known Congregationalist. Questions to be answered on "Religious Difficulties" (to be sent in before meeting).
- (26) Entertainment to nurses in local hospital.
- (27) Lantern Lecture by an F.R.G.S., F.R.P.S., on "Famous Faces in Palaces, Parliaments and Pulpits."
- (28) Fellowship Guild Closing Social.
- (29) General Meeting—Reviews of winter's progress and discussion of future plans.

This Church,¹ in a Greater East London district, has also a G.L.B. and B.B., a Philanthropic Society in connection with the Guild, a

¹ Leytonstone Congregational Church.

Dramatic Society, a Young People's Orchestra, and various sports clubs including badminton, tennis, and football. It also works for another Church in a very poor district and it includes in its Fellowship its Home Church Mission. Sunday afternoon Bible Classes are attended by many of the Guild members, and once a month a Sunday afternoon Fellowship service is held.

The Guild meets one night a week from September to April, and the majority of members are between 16 and 25 years of age. While the leader is an older member, the various committees are elected from amongst the young people.

The BAPTIST UNION has a Young People's Department which is responsible for the many Fellowships throughout the country. Besides the varied winter programmes (educational, recreational, and spiritual), most groups arrange excursions and sport during the summer. The Department arranges Holiday Fellowships, and its international work is developing rapidly with the organisation of Fellowship Pilgrimages in England and abroad. The Union is associated with various movements which are active in the Churches, *e.g.* the Girls' Life Brigades and Guides and Christian Endeavour Societies are strongly represented.

The METHODIST CHURCH (created by the Union in 1933 of the Wesleyan Methodist, Primitive Methodist, and United Methodist Churches) has two separate departments which seek to provide for the needs of young people. The Sunday School Department is concerned with the branches of the various National organisations (*e.g.* Girl Guides, Girls' Life Brigade) affiliated to Methodist Churches and Schools. In the case of younger scholars, Play-hours are sometimes found in association with Primary and Junior Departments. The "Young Methodism" Department includes in one organisation a group of activities whose strength and variety are brought out in the following Table:

	Branches	Members
Junior Guild (8-12)	1,404	57,790
Intermediate Wesley Guild (12-15)	135	3,948
Senior Wesley Guild (15 upwards)	3,629	174,202
Junior Christian Endeavour (7-14)	1,211	35,780
Intermediate Christian Endeavour (14-18)	142	2,888
Senior Christian Endeavour (18 and over)	2,274	61,834
Legion of Service (14 and over)	39	1,188
Legion of Venturers (11-14)	26	772
Other Devotional Societies	1,136	34,356

In addition to these, the Methodist Missions scattered over the country, particularly in the crowded areas of large towns, have varied activities for children and young people which are usually open to any in the neighbourhood who wish to come in.

The PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES also have flourishing clubs and guilds for Young People, as well as Girl Guide Companies, etc., while most of the Girls' Guildry Companies to be found in England are attached to

Presbyterian Churches. The Young People's Committees show great vitality, and many are active in various forms of social service.

The FRIENDS, though not so strong numerically, also have units of various national societies associated with some of their Preparative Meetings. Sometimes the Meetings support the week-night activities for young people by making grants towards expenses. A room is usually provided, and the responsibility for the organisation may rest on the staff of the Sunday School or it may be vested in a Young People's Committee. An interesting feature of the work is the readiness of the Friends to co-operate with another local group in any venture, *e.g.* a Young People's Guild run in association with a Wesleyan Church.

The week-night activities held in many Meetings for adolescents include singing, debates, study circles, handwork, sports, and games, with rambles in the summer months. In some cases these are specifically intended for Young Friends, but in the poorer and more crowded areas they are run for the benefit of boys and girls living near the Meeting House. (See *Quakerly Activities in East London*, 1932, published by the Bedford Institute.)

The SALVATION ARMY.—The Citadels of the Salvation Army are to be found in most of the poorest districts of the populous towns of the country. These "Goodwill Centres" are active in the work amongst young people, and many have a Company of Life Saving Guards—a uniformed body of girls between the ages of 11 and 18, having some features in common with Girl Guide Companies. There is a system of badge tests and company drill, but not the same central direction of activities. It is rather the policy of the Salvation Army Headquarters to leave to local discretion the adaptation of its work to the needs and requirements of the young people of the district. The organisation of the Life Saving Guards is one aspect only of its religious work, and as for the Church clubs and guilds over the country, no statistics of total membership, etc., are available at Headquarters. The Companies are open to girls of any denomination, and it is common to find that a large proportion of members of the Life Guards are not Salvationists.

Great need is felt for trained leaders and for accommodation in the development of work amongst these young people. The older girls help to train the younger sections, and Salvationists would welcome the opportunity to train their workers to undertake such activities as physical training, for which girls are making continual demands.

The CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR MOVEMENT (so strongly represented amongst the listed activities of "Young Methodism") is definitely a religious movement, with occasional social evenings and rambles as part of its Fellowship. It is interdenominational, with units in the Church of England as well as in the Free Churches.

Various Missionary Societies in the Churches are supported by organised groups of young people, *e.g.* the Baptist Missionary Society has as one of its sub-sections the Girls' Auxiliary, which has some 350 branches, with a membership of approximately 6000 girls between

14 and 30 years of age. While its interests are mainly missionary, it has social and recreational activities at frequent intervals, and according to the needs of the members of particular groups, gymnastic classes, swimming, rambling, etc., are organised, as well as the more serious activities connected with study and work for the missionary enterprise. This movement is widespread over the country, with strong representation in Yorkshire (63 branches) and London (50 branches). Its members are anxious to co-operate and not overlap with other organisations in an area (*e.g.* the Girls' Friendly Society), and for this purpose it has had various conferences to see where its work could best be extended. A similar organisation for younger members is the League of Ropeholders, with 250 branches.

We cannot leave the question of the work of the Churches in the provision of leisure-time facilities for young people without reference to the SUNDAY SCHOOL UNIONS. While the Sunday School work, as such, is outside the scope of the survey, yet in many areas the week-night activities connected with the Sunday School provide the bulk of the opportunities for the leisure hours. The Sunday School Union works to develop the whole personality—the scholars' spiritual, moral, and physical welfare. The Girls' Life Brigade is closely associated with the National Sunday School Union. Many Unions organise an Eisteddfod and Exhibition, in which music and handicrafts play a prominent part. The Choral Committee organises a national competition for Sunday Schools on "religion in song." All these activities involve preparation, which occupies the leisure of many young people during the week as well as at the afternoon Sunday School.

The Sunday School Union is interdenominational, but it is most active in the Free Churches. The Church of England has its own Sunday School Union. The Church of England Sunday School Institute publishes a children's magazine, *Jack and Jill*, and in connection with this a Children's Society known as the Order of St Christopher is run. This Order, with its junior and senior sections, links up groups of young people in various churches, and for those who are not members of a group, although they belong to the Order, a "Help-One-Another Club" is open. A correspondence page every month keeps the young people in touch with club activities, and competitions and group contests are arranged, including painting, drawing, collecting, handwork, puzzles, story-writing, verse-making, etc.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES have numerous associations with week-night meetings, but the main emphasis is on the spiritual welfare of the young people and the due observance of religious duties. The Sodality of the Children of Mary, for example, involves a religious meeting once a week, but in many cases it is followed by a friendly hour, perhaps in their own library, and socials, rambles, and other activities are organised at frequent intervals.

The Catholic Women's League is eager to develop the Club movement amongst Catholic girls, and in some seven or eight towns recrea-

tional and social clubs have been established and others are under consideration. There is a Junior Section to the Catholic Women's League for girls between 14 and 25 years of age. It has its own committee, with a Junior National Committee with representation on the Catholic Women's League Council. A Catholic Nurses' Guild seeks to promote the spiritual, professional, and social welfare of its members, and the welfare of domestic workers is being considered by the recently formed society of the "Dames of St Joan." Many Homes run by Catholic Sisters have girls' clubs attached.

A recent venture inspiring much enthusiasm amongst Catholic women is the Grail movement, which originated in Holland. It sets a high religious standard and seeks to enrol its adherents in a mass movement for the development of "the inner life and the outer activity." It appeals to an ideal of sacrifice and service for the spread of the Faith, and it organises its members under trained leaders. The ideal must penetrate recreation as well as other aspects of life, and clubs have been started in several areas. It is hoped to establish centres on an occupational or class basis—one for domestic workers, another for factory girls, another for secondary school girls, another for professional workers, another for society girls, etc. It is believed that the ideal of the Grail will unite them all, but that the diversity of needs makes organisation in separate groups desirable. Languages, first aid, gymnastics, art, music, public demonstrations, etc., are some of the activities encouraged. The love of colour is one of the outstanding notes of the movement, and beauty of design in plays and pageants has made a great appeal wherever a mass production has been arranged (e.g. *Everyman*). Uniform is optional, but whenever it is adopted (as it is in Holland) it is bright and colourful, varying according to the districts in which the centres exist or with the occupation of the members. So far, the movement is young, and comparatively few centres exist in England. It has, however, considerable vitality and is of interest in a survey of recreational facilities in its emphasis on the need for arousing an appreciation of beauty in colour and form and the need for setting a high standard if an appeal is to be made to the imagination of young people in the modern world.

Throughout the country, with one or two notable exceptions, the clubs and associations organised by Catholics seldom co-operate with youth organisations of other denominations, but tend to keep strictly to their own parochial loyalties.

Wherever there are strong JEWISH COMMUNITIES we find considerable organisation for social welfare: and this is always specially concerned with children and young people. We usually find active Jewish clubs in the Jewish quarters of the large industrial towns, in London, Leeds, Hull, Newcastle, etc., etc., e.g. in London the Association of Jewish Youth seeks to weld together the Jewish youth whether they be connected with Jewish Schools, Jewish Boys' or Girls' Clubs, or Jewish Young Men's or Women's Clubs. The Senior and Junior Divi-

sions consist of varied types of clubs—some of them mixed—and competitions in drama and inter-club debates as well as the many sports activities make for the co-operation for which the Association continually strives. Many of the Girls' Clubs are affiliated to the National Council of Girls' Clubs through their unions, and their representation usually brings vitality and energy to the inter-club activities.

Many of the Churches of various denominations support "Homes" for groups of girls in special need, particularly in connection with moral welfare work. The Church of England is especially active in this work, but many of the Free Churches also have their own Girls' Homes. In most cases there is a girls' club associated with the Home, and efforts are made to bring a normal healthy atmosphere into the girls' lives by means of recreational and social activities.

The SETTLEMENTS.—The work done by the Churches may fittingly be concluded by reference to the support given to Church Settlements of all denominations by members of Churches in various parts of the country. (This is true also of Jewish Settlements in close association with the synagogue.)

Most Settlements have active boys' and girls' clubs, many of them mixed, as well as organised classes and social evenings for the older members. Since the social welfare done by the Settlements is comprehensive in scope, the training given to residential students in preparation for club leadership is particularly valuable.

While many of the Settlements draw their support from the churches of a particular denomination, and tend to have their resident workers from that denomination, yet many others are interdenominational, and all of them serve their neighbourhood without reservation. Their clubs are always "open" clubs, and pressure is seldom brought to bear on young people to attend any specific form of worship, though opportunity is often given for attendance at a Settlement Chapel (or Synagogue) service.

We see from the preceding summary that the Churches are playing a large part in the provision of leisure-time facilities for young people. Many are able to do the valuable personal work amongst the small groups attached to them which is sometimes difficult of attainment in the larger club. On the other hand, there is danger of too great concentration on their own small units, and a narrow loyalty may lead to a refusal to co-operate in larger issues of the neighbourhood. There is perhaps a contributory cause to the danger of sectionalism and the distrust of organisation amongst many Church workers, as most of them are voluntary workers and many are very busy and often overworked. They find it hard to spare the time to relate the part to the whole. The filling in of forms, etc., which is a necessary part of organised activity, is often regarded as "red tape" and of no importance. Though many have the wider vision they lack the opportunity to express it, *e.g.* many

trained Church workers, Deaconesses, Church Army Sisters, etc., find their work so varied and so many calls are made upon their time and energies that they cannot give the attention that they would like to the youth organisations.

A second difficulty is that of premises. The majority of Church halls are used to the utmost capacity, and very few youth organisations can have the use of a room or hall for more than one night a week. A large proportion find themselves limited to a part of an evening, with another society clamouring for entrance before their own programme is completed. A Church function, such as a bazaar or concert, usually involves the displacement of the organisation meeting on those nights. Some Free Churches, too, are hampered in the recreational opportunities they can offer to young people owing to the tradition that secular activities may not take place in Church halls (*e.g.* dancing and dramatic performances may not be possible for this reason).

Some of the efforts made in different parts of the country to overcome these difficulties will be discussed later in a consideration of the whole problem of club premises and of co-operation.

But in spite of the many difficulties which have to be faced, the Churches are making a valuable contribution to the provision of leisure-time facilities for young people throughout England and Wales, both for their own Church members and for many others outside their congregations.

V. OTHER SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

IN addition to the associations which are organised on a national basis, there are, all over the country, local societies which provide recreational activities or facilities for social intercourse. These are often based on a single interest which the members have in common.

Local rambling clubs and cycling clubs are becoming increasingly popular up and down the country. They may or may not be affiliated to a National Organisation, *e.g.* many Settlements and clubs have rambling societies which are not affiliated to the Youth Hostels' Association. Similarly, some cycling clubs are purely local, but many are affiliated to the Cyclists' Touring Club. The membership of the Cyclists' Touring Club, an old-established association, has increased from 8546 in 1918 to 30,161 in 1933 (see *Survey of London Life and Labour*, Chapter on Amusements). The rapid growth of the Youth Hostels' Association is described in a previous section (see Part I. Sec. II.). Bands of youths and girls can be seen streaming out of the town in the week-ends or in the long summer evenings. The popularity of rambling or cycling amongst young people is largely a question of geographical position. In Portsmouth, for example, there is a very large proportion who cycle, since the peculiar position of the town makes a journey necessary before open country can be reached. Many Northern towns, however, are set in the midst of beautiful country, and from the woollen towns of York-

shire, the cotton towns of Lancashire, and the potteries of Staffordshire, young people have continued to explore the surrounding moors and hills on foot, strenuously resisting any attempted encroachment on their right to tramp over the countryside.

Swimming is another activity which is greatly increasing in popularity, only bounded by the opportunities offered in the local swimming baths or by proximity to the sea. Local authorities are being pressed to extend these facilities, and so soon as swimming baths are opened the membership increases in large numbers. This is fostered both by the training given to school children and by the general custom of allowing reduced fees to youth organisations and societies. Sports Associations of various kinds are demanding increased facilities for organised games, and the National Playing Fields Association¹ is agitating for better and more extensive playing fields, especially in the industrial towns of the country (see the Annual Report of the National Playing Fields Association, 1933-34). For young people between 14 and 18 athletic associations are encouraged whenever there is a local J.O.C. or Union. Otherwise, unless a hockey or netball league is run in connection with Church clubs or Works' clubs, girls do not as a rule organise spontaneously for outdoor games.

There are indications in many parts of the country of the growing popularity of camping, not only in organised camp holidays (*e.g.* Girl Guides, Clubs, etc.), but by small groups of girls and youths who take advantage of the cheap facilities offered within reach of some of the large industrial towns; for example, many young people go out from Leeds to Otley and Ilkley. Tents can be hired for two shillings per week-end.

Choral and Orchestral Societies are active in many parts of the country, and while on the whole, by reason of high fees, membership is drawn from the salaried workers or the leisured members of the community, choirs are also a popular activity in connection with many other groups, *e.g.* the Sunday School Union and the Rechabites organise local Musical Festivals. The Co-operative Guild has choral societies, and certain Trade Unions have choirs for the wives and daughters of their members, *e.g.* the National Union of Railwaymen at Rugby. Many schools now have their orchestral and choral societies, thus encouraging the desire for music amongst young people. The National Federation of Musical Festivals stimulates the organisation of local Festivals all over the country, some of which have won fame for their high standard of musical performance. (The encouragement of music in Clubs is described in Part II. Sec. I. v.)

In Wales the popularity of Choral Societies is traditionally great, and the value of the Eisteddfod in the national life is an acknowledged fact. Local Dramatic Societies or Amateur Theatricals, like choral societies, are often confined to the business or professional members of the community, but the work of the British Drama League and the Arts

¹ In co-operation since 1928 with the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, which is just coming to the end of an allocation of £200,000.

League of Service has aroused great enthusiasm in many parts of the country amongst manual and other workers. A great many churches have a dramatic society, sometimes a "dramatic and literary" or a "dramatic and debating" society, but the dramatics rather than the debates take pride of place in most cases. Most Settlements, both Residential and Educational, encourage dramatic work, some having their own hall and stage. On the whole, the members of choral and dramatic societies are young adults, and activities of this kind amongst adolescents are to be looked for mostly in the boys' and girls' clubs (see Part II. Sec. I. v).

This is largely true also of Folk Dancing. Apart from the many country dance classes in clubs and company meetings, Folk Dancing would seem to appeal more widely to adults than to adolescents. Moreover, the professional status of teaching members of the English Folk Dance and Song Society precludes them from taking classes for a reduced fee and the cost is usually prohibitive for the young worker.

The desire of young people to belong to a gang or a group is manifest in many ways. Wherever processions are organised, children love to take part in the display, *e.g.* in some of the Tyneside towns bands of children in fancy dress march in procession through the streets. Collecting boxes provide funds for a day's outing which is characterised by much playing of musical instruments, largely home-made and often ingeniously contrived.

The joy of belonging to an organised society is seen, too, in the many popular newspaper clubs. The "NigNogs" and the "Smilers," children's clubs run in connection with newspapers in various towns, *e.g.* Bradford, have a large membership. Boys and girls are encouraged in various ways to increase the membership of the clubs, and incidentally the sale of the papers, by, *e.g.*, a children's corner in the paper with puzzles and stories and pictures: gifts offered to those who see their names in the current issue, etc. Mass entertainments are organised amongst the boys and girls, and the proceeds are given to local charities. Swimming Leagues and Football Leagues for junior teams are also run, and full descriptions of their activities are given. An altruistic note is stressed, too, by the rules of membership, which include service to others and kindness to animals. (These clubs may have senior members, and trips to Blackpool for Senior Cyclists is one of the popular activities.)

It is common knowledge that the cinema plays a large part to-day in the provision of entertainment and that the film habit begins early. A report of the Education Committee of the London County Council on "School Children and the Cinema," showed that 41 per cent. of children between 8 and 14 went to the cinema at least once a week. "The Pictures" account for the spare time of a great many young people, and the weekly Film Magazines provide their favourite reading. Their interest is stimulated by the formation of societies associated with popular film stars. The "Garbo" Club and the "Novarro" Club provide thrills such as the possession of signed photographs which can

be sent for to the publicity departments in Hollywood, and the eager devotees fashion their dress as nearly as possible on that of their favourite actresses.

It is difficult to estimate how much recreation is found in reading at home or listening to wireless programmes. Librarians in many parts of the country are concerned at the lack of guidance given to adolescents (see *The Library Assistant*, September-December 1934). Libraries have special departments for junior and for adult readers, but only a few have separate adolescent departments. Many librarians give great attention to the training of school children in the use of a library; some have children's corners for reading; some arrange demonstration-lectures while the children are still at school; many are planning definitely to lead the adolescent gradually from the juvenile section proper to appropriate books in the adult library. But many workers among young people feel that at the critical age of 14 when most children leave school further guidance is needed in the selection of books from the adult section of the library. There are indications of a great falling off in reading at that age, although, since differentiation is seldom made, no general statistics are available. An investigation in Liverpool showed a larger drop in the reading of girls than of boys (see *Survey of Merseyside*, vol. iii.). In Walthamstow, where an Intermediate Department has been set up for some years, the scheme has been reported to be an unqualified success. There is a general daily average circulation of 238 volumes. An analysis of the issues recorded gave 71.6 per cent. as recreational, while 88,436 of the books borrowed were definitely instructional (see *A Five Years' Experiment in Intermediate Reading: Walthamstow Public Libraries, 1924-29*). Other libraries, e.g. Coventry and Dagenham, have experimented in an effort to provide for the reading needs of young people. Some have also given hospitality to wireless discussion groups, but these appeal to older members rather than to young people. The part played by club libraries in helping to bridge this gap and in training young people in the choice of books is described later (see Part II. Sec. I. iv).

Whist is another form of recreation whose popularity is reported in many parts of the country, but the social atmosphere of the Whist Drives organised by commercial enterprise, as well as the offer of tempting prizes, would seem to be more popular amongst older women, and few young girls are attracted. They rather favour the dance-halls, which vary in type from the "Sixpenny Hop" to the more expensive "Grand Dance." In some parts of the country social workers have reported the potential evils of the dance-halls attached to public-houses, or of the "Roadhouses" on the main roads outside the towns, especially when a motor-cycle ride or an organised char-a-banc trip is added to the thrills of the evening.

Another movement which is receiving great publicity is that of the League of Health and Beauty, organised on a commercial basis and attracting large numbers in several of the bigger towns. With a charge

of 6d. per member per evening, large classes are organised, often under the direction of a dancing instructress.

Whist and dancing are both popular activities amongst the members of Girls' Clubs (whist especially for the older members), and both afford opportunities for raising funds as well as for social evenings.

Other social and recreational activities can only be given in general terms until detailed surveys are made in a large number of areas. Such a survey, made amongst adolescents in Liverpool, in a house-to-house enquiry, gave some interesting indications of the "Other Interests of Adolescents" (see *Survey of Merseyside*, vol. iii. p. 219).

REPRODUCED FROM *SURVEY OF MERSEYSIDE*, VOL. III.

Other Interests	Percentage of each sex with interests recorded			
	Boys		Girls	
	Before leaving school	At 15	Before leaving school	At 15
Some kind of outdoor sport or game, excluding cycling, walking, fishing . . .	57·8	49·8	36·4	22·9
Football	37·2	37·3	—	—
Cricket	10·6	16·6	—	—
Swimming	13·6	19·4	11·1	16·2
Other games (baseball, netball, tennis, billiards) . .	3·5	6·9	10·4	13·6
Other sports	5·3	8·3	—	—
Cycling	5·9	14·5	0·7	4·0
Walking	0·6	6·9	0·7	12·2
Gardening, nature study . .	5·3	4·1	0·7	—
Music	15·3	5·5	23·0	13·6
Piano	(6·5)	(2·1)	(7·4)	(4·0)
Dancing, singing	5·3	1·4	13·4	5·4
Drawing, art, painting, etc. .	7·1	5·2	7·4	5·4
Reading	53·0	51·9	57·0	44·7
Fretwork, woodwork, handwork	24·7	15·2	—	—
Needlework, knitting, dress-making	—	—	26·7	19·0
Cookery, housewifery, first aid	—	—	5·2	5·4
Other hobbies (stamps, gymnastics, wireless, theatres) .	8·2	10·4	11·9	6·8
Cinema	28·9	45·6	25·2	36·5
Once a week	(24·7)	(32·5)	(15·6)	(28·4)
Twice or more	(2·9)	(7·6)	(1·5)	(6·8)
No interest recorded	(5·9)	(6·2)	(7·4)	(9·5)

(Figures in brackets throughout are included in the larger figures immediately above them.)

NOTES :

- Drop in number of girls playing outdoor games after they leave school.
- Popularity of swimming "probably due to the good swimming facilities in the district."
- Growth of interest in walking, especially amongst girls.
- "Girls show more interest in music than boys, but there is a decline in interest after leaving school."
- "It is difficult to explain why there should be a drop in the number of girls attracted to reading after leaving school, whereas boys remain as keen as before."
- "The decline of interest in fretwork and needlework is probably due to the loss of facilities on leaving school."
- "More frequent attendance at the cinema is made possible for young people when they start to earn for themselves. The interest of the boys is much more marked than that of the girls, presumably because the latter have a good many duties in the home after they return from work."

VI. CO-OPERATION BETWEEN YOUTH ORGANISATIONS AND STATUTORY BODIES

1.—THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY

CO-OPERATION between statutory and voluntary bodies is a peculiarly happy feature of the development of English services. In no sphere, perhaps, is it more essential than in the effort to provide young people with opportunities for a wise use of leisure. In the report of the Adult Education Committee on "Adult Education and the Local Education Authority," an account is given of the many bodies which exist to bridge the gap for adults between formal and vocational training on the one hand, and informal and recreational classes on the other. It is recognised that voluntary organisations and statutory authorities have distinctive contributions to make towards the provision of adult education, while schemes of co-operation make for partnership which combines elasticity of development with the advantages of a planned and comprehensive educational policy.

Mr W. E. Williams has described youth organisations as "The Nursery of Adult Education" (*The Auxiliaries of Adult Education*, p. 29, published by the British Institute of Adult Education), yet when we consider any similar partnership in the provision for young people the gaps are noticeably wider and more frequent. It would perhaps be as well to remind ourselves of the powers of the Local Education Authority in this direction by quoting from Section 86 of the Education Act, 1921 :

"For the purpose of supplementing and reinforcing the instruction and social and physical training provided by the public system of

education, and without prejudice to any other powers, a local education authority for elementary education as respects children attending public elementary schools, and a local education authority for higher education as respects other children and young persons and persons over the age of eighteen attending educational institutions, may, with the approval of the Board of Education, make arrangements to supply or maintain or aid the supply or maintenance of—

- (a) holiday or school camps, especially for young persons attending continuation schools ;
- (b) centres and equipment for physical training, playing fields (other than the ordinary playgrounds of public elementary schools not provided by the local education authority), school baths, school swimming baths ;
- (c) other facilities for social and physical training in the day or evening."

The Board of Education and H.M. Inspectors encourage a broad policy, and on the whole Rules and Regulations issued by the Board allow of considerable elasticity. The rigidity found in some areas is due to the regulations of the Local Education Authority.

A relatively small number of Local Education Authorities have set up Juvenile Organisations Committees (61 authorities in England—excluding London—and 3 in Wales). A small proportion have a scheme of direct co-operation with youth organisations in the provision of educational facilities within the clubs. Others encourage the formation of Old Scholars' Clubs, either by giving practical aid in the form of grants, etc., or by moral support. Taking them in reverse order, a consideration of these methods as they function in different parts of the country will illustrate the possibilities of such developments.

Old Scholars' Clubs.—In Staffordshire the County Education Authority has been active in the formation and progress of the work of the Staffordshire Old Scholars' Association. It allows the free use of schools with heat and light, paying the caretaker's fee, and when necessary, the fees of lecturers. It makes a 25 per cent. grant towards the cost of initial equipment and supplies boxes of library books as and when required. The Education Committee has stipulated that all clubs should be undenominational and self-governing, and as far as possible self-supporting (a contribution is expected from each member of at least one penny a week—or occasionally a sessional fee). The clubs meet once a week or more, according to the time the leader is able to devote to their activities ; the leaders are usually the head teachers or assistant teachers.

It is the aim of the Education Committee to have Old Scholars' Clubs in connection with every "Leaving" School in the county. In the session 1933-34 there were 61 clubs, mostly in country districts, with a total membership approaching 3000 ; 15 were for girls only, 20 mixed, and the rest were boys' clubs. School children may join during their last term at school, and though no rigid age limit has been

set, the ages vary between 14 and 18 for the most part. The average membership per club is between 20 and 30, but one reaches a total of 275.

A diversity of tastes and needs is catered for, and winter activities include physical training, country dancing, lectures (to which outsiders are sometimes invited), reading circles, craft work and dramatic performances. In summer, contact is maintained with the old scholars by means of rambles, cycling, and other forms of outdoor sport. An interesting feature has been the production of plays in order to raise money for outside purposes, such as a Drinking Fountain for the village. The spirit of service is being inculcated, and co-operation with other organisations brought about by such activities as entertainment of the Women's Institute or of the old folk in the village, and working with other groups for the promotion of fêtes. Welfare Committees in various parts of the county support the clubs, both financially and with service where necessary.¹

In London there is a similar Association of Old Scholars' Clubs organised voluntarily by the head teachers of elementary schools. There are some 250 of these clubs meeting generally once a week in the schools, which are provided free of charge by the London County Council.

In the country generally Federations of Old Scholars' Clubs are not common. Many Local Education Authorities look with sympathy on the efforts of school teachers to run Old Scholars' Clubs, but they have no official knowledge of their existence. In response to enquiries of some 48 Local Education Authorities it was found that the majority know of some Old Scholars' Clubs meeting once a week, but a considerable number were held in connection with Central Schools only. Kent and Lancashire County Councils reported that they were successfully organised in connection with Senior Schools all over the county. Many reported sports activities run by old scholars of elementary schools, and some met once a year only, for a Christmas party. The reorganisation of Senior Schools has not given time in many areas for a tradition to grow up in connection with the school, but many head teachers hope to build up a flourishing club as the years go by.

The voluntary work of many school teachers is not confined to Old Scholars' Clubs. All over the country a number are giving service of one kind or another to voluntary organisations. Where they offer special ability in particular directions, *e.g.* handicrafts, physical training, folk dancing, music, drama, their services are particularly appreciated. It is perhaps expecting too much to ask a school teacher who has had school work all day to run a club in the evening. It may be unwise as a general rule to press the service of the school teacher as leader of a club, since it is difficult for her to leave behind her completely the atmosphere of the schoolroom. But her expert knowledge of particular subjects is an invaluable aid to the club leader aiming at a high standard in her educational and recreational classes.

¹ The Association has recently affiliated to the N.C.G.C.

Fortunately not all clubs have to depend entirely on voluntary help in organising classes. Some receive the support of the Local Education Authority, who may either give a grant towards the payment of a trained instructor or, more usually, provide the instructor free of charge from their own panel. Sometimes an arrangement is reached, as in Leeds, between club leaders and the Local Education Authority whereby important club events are fixed on nights which will not clash with Evening Institute nights (*e.g.* for key subjects in grouped courses). In Manchester much sympathy is shown towards youth organisations, and a tutor is provided for a club in any subject asked for. In addition, a grant is made towards domestic classes, to a voluntary association which recruits teachers and helpers and trains them for voluntary work in clubs. School premises are lent for festivals arranged by the Club Union, and the Director would be ready to extend co-operation as the clubs developed in capacity.

In Kent an interesting development is to be seen in the organisation of classes in Leadership, *e.g.* a one-day school on "Problems in Girls' Club Work," and a course of four lectures on "Leadership in Juvenile Organisations." The Director of Education states that "the Kent Education Committee have, since 1926, co-operated with the Kent Council of Social Service in the provision of courses of lectures and discussion groups for persons interested in social work amongst young men and women. The aim of these lectures is to enable club leaders to keep abreast of modern knowledge, and to bring them into touch with successful experiments in other areas. The Kent Council of Social Service arrange the annual programme of classes, which consists of two or three lecture courses and discussions at selected centres. They also undertake all the administrative work in connection with the classes, including engaging the speakers, the hire of premises, advertising, etc. The Kent Education Committee undertake financial responsibility for all the courses which they approve."

In London there is a comprehensive scheme of co-operation between Clubs and Evening Institutes: "Apart from the provision made by the Council in its Evening Institutes the services of teachers are allowed to clubs, welfare centres and similar organisations. The subjects of instruction comprise needlecraft, physical exercises, music, health subjects and general education." There is, however, a stipulation that such classes do not overlap the educational facilities provided in Evening Institutes. It is pointed out that "the services of instructors will not be supplied to clubs and institutions, the members of which would otherwise be willing to attend the Council's Evening Institutes."

In practice, a working arrangement is often made between heads of Evening Institutes and club leaders whereby a special club class is held at a neighbouring Institute. The club members attend in a body. The club leader will generally inspect the register and count the Evening Institute attendance as a club night which may be credited to the members as points towards their House. Similarly, the head of the

Evening Institute will visit the club if a class is held there, so that a spirit of friendly co-operation between the Institute Head and the club leader exists. The great difficulty always lies in the necessity of keeping up the numbers of the class to the required limit (varying from 14 for most subjects, to 25 for certain classes), and ensuring that the necessary numbers are ready to begin at the stipulated time. So often juveniles are kept late at their work, or come home tired, that the effort to meet the regulations in this respect is a source of anxiety to the club leader. Many who would welcome a class of one hour beginning later in the evening cannot guarantee the number for a two-hour class beginning punctually at a specified time. In the same way many leaders are ready to encourage their members to attend a course at the Evening Institute, but the exacting nature of the times and the length of the course (usually six hours a week for those under 18) make their task an uphill one. Under the London County Council regulations one-hour classes may be held in singing and physical exercises, but an instructor is provided for these classes only when instruction is given in other subjects of an educational character.

In Birmingham the Education Committee has for some time given attention to the question of "the relationship of Evening Institutes and club and other junior organisations with a view to reconciling and furthering the aims of these two Institutions." In July 1934, after conferences between representatives of the Education Committee and Club Organisations and Head Teachers of Evening Institutes, arrangements were proposed whereby :

"(1) Clubs and other junior organisations will endeavour to avoid fixing major club meetings on evenings on which (grouped course) key subjects are taken in Evening Institutes.

"(2) The Education Committee will give authority for the establishment in approved cases of classes in Club premises."

There are, however, certain conditions imposed in the establishment of classes for Junior students in club premises. One of these stipulates that any classes so formed must constitute part of a grouped course, the remainder of which is attended by the students. The required initial enrolment is about 25 students.

The Bristol Education Committee have worked out a scheme in co-operation with the Juvenile Organisations Committee, which, while aiming at certain standard requirements, avoids any rigid barrier. The spirit underlying their proposals is seen in the preamble of their circular to club leaders and others :

"It often happens that members of boys' and girls' clubs and similar organisations desire classes of an educational character, and while as individuals they may not be prepared to attend the classes in Evening Institutes, they would attend as a separate company on the club premises.

"The Bristol Education Committee will be glad to co-operate with club authorities in this matter, and to consider such arrangements as

will combine both the educational and recreational activities of the club members.

"One of the principal objects of the Committee's scheme of instruction for club members is to secure that the club influence, which in the case of many boys and girls is of great value, should not be lost, and for this reason they are prepared to form separate classes confined to club members only."

The general conditions laid down allow of some elasticity, *e.g.* "Clubs and organisations unable to commence their classes on the opening date are not prevented from applying for a later commencement." A varied list of subjects is offered, with the note, "The following is a list of subjects for which the Committee is prepared to consider application to provide teachers, and, although not exhaustive, will no doubt be suggestive. Other subjects may, in special circumstances, be added to the list. Again we find that "as a general rule a course of study covering two or three subjects is considered advisable but in specially difficult areas classes in single subjects will be allowed."

In Liverpool a scheme has been worked out by the Liverpool Union of Girls' Clubs in consultation with the Liverpool Education Committee. They have had throughout the advice and support of officers of the Board of Education.

"The scheme provides for an Institute for every two-mile area of the working-class areas of the city. By means of it the Clubs within that area would be assisted with teachers and voluntary help of all kinds, and would be able to use the Institute for classes and meetings in cases where their work is cramped for lack of this facility, thus developing the small club, which we regard as specially valuable, to the fullest capacity. The Institute would also, in co-operation with the Clubs and Evening Institutes in the neighbourhood and the Junior Instruction Centres, seek to fill up great gaps which will still exist. The scheme should solve the problem of securing the maximum amount of voluntary service with the minimum amount of public funds" (Quotation from the Annual Report of the Union of Girls' Clubs, Liverpool, 1934).

The Club Institute scheme would seem to be a valuable effort to bridge the gap between the Evening Institute and the Club. It would retain the club atmosphere and at the same time secure the expert guidance of the trained instructor. It should be of great service to the small one-night-a-week club whose premises are unsuitable even for informal educational work.

The first Club Institute in Liverpool is already secured—a fine old Georgian house in a populous district, and central for a number of small clubs. It is undergoing minor interior structural alterations to fit it for its purpose. A hall is to be built in place of some outhouses and back garden. A trained club worker, closely in touch with the Education Authority, has been appointed as Head of the Club Institute to advise club members on educational and recreational activities. To give an

example—a girl wanting training for the millinery trade would be advised to take the vocational course offered at the Evening Institute ; the girl fond of making or trimming her own hats but repelled by the formal atmosphere of the class-room would be encouraged to pursue her hobby in the Club Institute. The girl full of high spirits who has as yet no interest in hobbies would find the occasional visit of her club to the Club Institute for socials or amateur theatricals, etc., a stimulating and friendly event.

The spaciousness and beauty of the interior of the Club-Institute are aspects of the scheme which are not the least important in the consideration of values. (Cf. "An Institute of Leisure," by the Director of Education for Wigan, quoted in full by Mr Valentine Bell in *Junior Instruction Centres and their Future*, published by the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust.)

Throughout the country the value of closer co-operation between Local Education Authorities and clubs and similar organisations would be inestimable. Now that the standard reached in elementary schools is so much higher, young people are not to be put off with the second-rate. Physical training and handicrafts, which play such an important part in club work, need trained advisers to guide the activities. Music and drama are always popular when an expert is in charge : the wildest spirits are thrilled by a good concert : yet for want of trained helpers these pursuits are held up in many cases, or it may be a poor standard of work results from the well-meaning but inexpert efforts of untrained helpers.

Would it not be possible by way of grants towards the engagement of an expert or by provision of an instructor from the Local Education Authority panel, to come to the support of juvenile organisations as is customary in the case of adult associations, *e.g.* the Women's Institute or the Workers' Educational Association ?

As with adult bodies, voluntary associations for young people's welfare have scope for experiment and initiative, which is an invaluable asset in recreational and educational work. If their work is recognised by the statutory body it gains authority in the eyes of the public and secures further encouragement and support.

Juvenile Organisations Committees.—It is not proposed to discuss the work of Juvenile Organisations Committees at great length, since a comprehensive account is given in the publication of the Board of Education, *The Work of Juvenile Organisations Committees*. Certain points which have emerged from discussion with J.O.C. secretaries and from an examination of J.O.C. reports are, however, of particular interest in a study of leisure-time facilities for girls.

We have already noted the small proportion of Local Education Authorities who have set up J.O.Cs. Another point of importance in our enquiry is the fact that so many of the organising secretaries are officials who are very busy with other administrative work, so that demands of the J.O.C. must necessarily take a secondary place. It is

naturally easier to approach the ideal set out in the preamble to most of the J.O.C. reports when the secretary is free to devote either whole time as in some cases, or a good part time as in others, to achieving the purpose of a J.O.C. The J.O.C. secretaries are usually on the administrative staff of the Local Education Authority, but they are sometimes engaged in other work, as for example in Exeter, where the Chief Constable is Honorary Secretary. Where there is a Council of Social Service there is usually close association with the J.O.C., the secretary sometimes combining the two offices, as in Sheffield.

We find in practice great variation in the work of the J.O.C. in different parts of the country. Many committees concentrate particularly on organising Sports Leagues and providing cups and shields for competitions. When that is the case, the activities of the boys' organisations are usually to the fore. As one report begins, "The activities of the Organisation were mainly concerned with the work of three Boys' Clubs." The rest of the report is occupied with a description of these clubs. Where girls' clubs are undeveloped or where there is no effective federation to put their claims, the tradition that girls do not play organised games often prevails and their needs pass unrecognised.

Other J.O.Cs. make it their aim to co-ordinate activities and foster the development of an all-round programme for youth organisations in their district. When clubs are federated in a union, co-operation with the J.O.C. is bound to be more effective. It is easier to plan schemes for a group of clubs than to negotiate for the welfare of a number of isolated units. The J.O.C. of West Ham and East Ham are affiliated to the N.C.G.C. In Swindon and Bristol the Club Union secretaries are the secretary and assistant secretary respectively of the J.O.C. In Swindon the Education Committee encourage the development of girls' clubs by setting free their organiser to develop that side of the work. School premises are offered as Headquarters in the evenings, and equipment and a store cupboard are provided. In Bristol the J.O.C. have organised training classes for club leaders (men and women) and a panel of helpers is kept, from which many clubs have been assisted at short notice. The organisation has camp sites of its own, used by boys' and girls' clubs in the holidays and at week-ends. The librarian has co-operated by setting aside for clubs certain shelves of books specially provided for the purpose. The usual displays and Sports Leagues formed an important part of the work, and the support of the local press was secured for the valuable task of bringing the work of youth organisations before the public.

Many J.O.Cs. give active support to the increasingly popular demand for camping. Several have camp sites of their own, *e.g.* Bristol (mentioned above) and Middlesbrough. The latter issues a booklet of *Information with Hints to Campers*, and the secretary writes: "Given a good camping ground girls' organisations, in my experience, find that camp is one of the finest experiences of the year."

Other J.O.Cs. interpret their powers to aid youth organisations in various ways. A common form of aid is grants to needy clubs for equipment or towards the use of halls. Cardiff provides lectures and talks and visits of observation. Portsmouth reports an item of expenditure on the hire and carriage of films. Barrow-in-Furness has a social centre and gymnasium with separate rooms for boys and girls of 14 to 18 years. In 1933-34 the boys had 211 evenings, with a total attendance of 17,720, and the girls had 91 evenings, with a total attendance of 2535. The Local Education Authority has made an extra grant towards the appointment of a woman organiser who will develop the girls' work. An increase in the number of voluntary helpers is reported.¹

Development of leisure-time opportunities through the active co-operation of club federations with the Education Committee (through its J.O.C.) can be illustrated by a study of the work of one active committee in detail. To take Southampton as an example, we find that the Chairman and Secretary of the Federation of Girls' Clubs take an active share, with representatives from boys' organisations, in the work of the committee. The internal work of the J.O.C. is necessarily chiefly administrative, working through the constituent union and federation. One interesting feature of the organisation is the nature of its Advisory Committees, which include an Educational Advisory Committee, with the Secretary to the Education Committee in the Chair. Its terms of reference are worth quoting in full :

- "(a) To survey and keep in touch with the educational work in Juvenile Organisations.
- "(b) To help in the expansion of such work when possible.
- "(c) To be responsible for any Educational developments in the activities of the J.O.C.
- "(d) To act as a link between the Juvenile Organisations and other Educational bodies.
- "(e) To advise the J.O.C. and members of the J.O.C. on any matter appertaining to the above."

It has discussed topics of such vital interest to clubs as Recruitment of Leadership, Play Leadership in School Playgrounds, and educational visits by club parties. The Playing Fields for Girls Sub-Committee has been specially appointed by the Executive to investigate the whole question of playing-fields for girls (with the Chairman of the Girls' Club Union as Chairman of the Committee). The Public Lands and Markets Committee of the Borough Council met this Sub-Committee and unanimously agreed to help in any way possible in providing facilities as suggested. It had immediate practical results in the provision of a tennis court and the promised reservation of more pitches in Public Recreation Grounds for women and girls.

¹ There has been a substantial increase in the girls' activities, evenings open, and total attendance. The girls have their own holiday camp, and a local Union of Girls' Clubs, under the auspices of the J.O.C., is in process of formation.

The J.O.C. also did valuable work in securing a site for clubs in a Council Housing area. In a new housing estate it is about to try the experiment of starting a community centre from a nucleus of boys and girls meeting in a temporary school building, and it is hoped that from a small beginning of one night a week each for boys and for girls respectively a centre for young people and adults, run on a community basis, will develop.

Another valuable result of the united effort to secure premises has been the offer of a Housing Society to let some double basements, which had been planned for storing, at a nominal rent to the J.O.C. for use by Girls' Organisations. They were decorated by the Housing Society and the rent was guaranteed by the J.O.C., who also made a grant of £5 for equipment. A Shipping Company gave china, and the result is seen in attractive club premises, which are let to Guide and Ranger Companies, to clubs, and other units of the J.O.C. As these premises are in the Dock district of Southampton, they are particularly appreciated.

The activities of the Southampton J.O.C. for the year 1934 included a Hobbies Exhibition, with a record number of entries (600) and a record attendance of organisations and of the general public. A feature of the Exhibition was a number of working demonstrations showing members actually at work on various hobbies and handicrafts.

Sports Leagues were arranged in football and netball, and inter-town matches with the Portsmouth Welfare Association were enthusiastically supported. (Incidentally the outing to Southsea, followed by tea, gave great joy.) Other activities have included a conference arranged with the Head Teachers' Association, which has been a valuable method of bringing schools into close touch with juvenile organisations; and the publication of a *Keep Fit* book for the use of girls' organisations.

The valuable work of such a J.O.C. was made possible by the encouragement given to an enthusiastic secretary by the Southampton Borough Council, etc., and by the co-operation of all the constituent federations in working for the welfare of youth as a whole.

Sheffield, recognising the value of co-operation between men and women concerned with various youth organisations, arranged a week-end conference, which had an encouraging response. In their own words, "Sheffield youth workers are generally very much engaged in getting on with their job in their own neighbourhood. A gathering of this kind when experience can be pooled and work viewed from all angles, is of great importance if common aims are to be followed and a wide view of the needs of boys and girls maintained."

It remains to be said that most J.O.Cs. in the large towns issue a comprehensive handbook of juvenile organisations in their area (*e.g.* Birmingham, Liverpool, Sheffield). Many smaller towns issue a booklet describing local facilities, *e.g.* "*A Register of Leisure-Time Facilities*

and Social Services in Chesterfield” is issued by the Borough Welfare Committee. York gives such a handbook to each school leaver. But it is also true that many Committees are unable to keep their handbooks up to date, owing to lack of funds or lack of ability to spare an official to make the necessary survey.

Play Centres for Children of School Age.—Certain Education Authorities and a number of voluntary bodies in England and Wales conduct Play Centres for Children of School Age. In some towns, centres are run by both while in other towns the centres are jointly organised.

The Board of Education Report, 1934, shows that in 1932 to 1933 there were 178 Centres conducted by Local Education Authorities with a total average attendance of 49,206 children, and 111 Centres conducted by 22 voluntary bodies with a total average attendance of 20,600. (“These figures do not include the numerous cases in which school playgrounds are kept open after school hours or during holidays, where less organised provision is made for games or other activities.”)

Co-operation between voluntary and statutory bodies in the provision of Play Centres is achieved in many ways, *e.g.* in Bradford there are four Centres open two evenings weekly, providing for a total of 1550 children between 7 and 14 years of age; the Principals are paid by the Education Committee, but the Assistants are provided by the voluntary organisations. They are not open in the holidays.

In Birmingham 9 Centres are provided by the Local Education Authority and 17 by voluntary organisations, for children between 4 and 14. Five of these are open during the Christmas holidays, when all arrangements are made by voluntary organisations. During the summer holidays the Local Education Authority arranges for paid Play leaders to be present in certain school playgrounds and recreation grounds in order to organise games for school children.

Chester, which has three Play Centres run by the Education Committee, also opens a school playground during the summer holidays with a paid organiser in charge.

In London the Centres are organised by a Voluntary Committee, the Play Centres Committee, which was founded in 1905 and has developed till to-day there are approximately 43 Centres (the number is subject to variation) with an average at each Centre varying between 200 and 600. The L.C.C. and the Board of Education make grants to the Committee and voluntary contributions help to finance the scheme, while the school buildings, lighting, and heating are provided free by the L.C.C. A staff of trained, paid organisers have the assistance of voluntary helpers to run evening programmes of great variety, from organised games and singing to reading and handwork. The Centres are open from 5 to 7 P.M. during the school terms, and during the summer holidays Day Centres are held in the school playground.

In Newcastle, Play Centres have been run for some years by the Education Committee, and there are now 12 Centres, with a total average attendance of 2325 per evening. None of these opens in the holidays.

Wakefield Play Centres have an interesting history, for their success was demonstrated by the Council of Social Service, and they were undertaken as a public responsibility after voluntary effort had proved the need for development.

In Middlesbrough the Play Centres are organised by the local J.O.C. on behalf of the Education Committee, who make a grant of £250 per year for the purpose and allow free use of school premises. There are 5 Centres, with a total attendance of approximately 1000. Of these, 4 are for juniors aged 6 to 8, and 1 for children of 8 to 10 years. They are closed during school holidays.

In Nottingham Play Centres are a strong feature. The 17 Centres have a total average nightly attendance of 4744, and are staffed almost entirely by paid helpers at a cost of £2190 per annum to the Local Education Authority. They are open for one and a half hours on each of fifty evenings.

Centres vary in the age groups for which they provide. While Middlesbrough and St Helens concentrate on the younger children, others keep the Centres for the older ones, *e.g.* Leicester, ages 11 to 14, Plymouth and Birkenhead, 9 to 14. In Birkenhead the Education Committee, by arrangement with the Health Committee, allow the use of four school playgrounds in congested parts of the town as "open playgrounds" after school hours during the summer months, and on Saturday mornings all the year round. The majority are open to all children of school age, but one or two are exceptional either at the lower or upper age limit, *e.g.* Leeds, which has 6 Centres (4 by the Education Committee and 2 by voluntary organisations) and admits children between 2 and 14 years.

Bolton, in addition to its one Centre for boys and girls of 10 to 14 (with an attendance of 600), has 2 Centres for youths between 16 and 21, with a membership of 200. The latter are run in co-operation with the Rotary Club.

Most Centres report that it is difficult to prevent the young people from returning after they have reached the age of 14. Many allow them to come as helpers. In Southampton an experiment has been tried, supported by the head mistress, in letting the older girls help with the younger ones. In some towns, *e.g.* Newcastle, mixed groups have been successfully run, and some Old Scholars' Clubs are attached to the Play Centres.

The work done by these Centres has much in common with the recreational and educational activities of the clubs, and it would seem to be a great opportunity to pass on young people who wish to continue their attendance from one to the other as they leave school. Where clubs are well established these links are often formed, and the

club or company leader keeps in close touch with the Play Centre organiser.

The Play Centres, with their trained helpers, have given the children interests and opportunities for expression which need to be fostered and encouraged if their full value is to be reaped. It is surely a great loss in every respect when the enthusiasm for these activities peters out through lack of opportunity, yet this happens in a great many towns where the over 14's clamour for admittance and have to be turned away. In many cases they cannot be passed on to clubs, for they are non-existent, or there may be one or two run on old-fashioned lines, with no appeal to young people who have been given a taste for something better. If co-operation between voluntary associations and statutory authorities could be continued over the period of adolescence by means of grants and provision of expert instructors, the good work begun in the Play Centres could be developed in the clubs to the great advantage of many young people who need stimulus and guidance in their choice of leisure-time pursuits.

2.—JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEES

Juvenile Employment Bureaux and Juvenile Advisory Committees.—In many areas the Juvenile Employment Committees co-operate closely with youth organisations for the welfare of young people. In some cases the J.E.B. officer is also the secretary of the J.O.C., as in Cambridge. In Cardiff the activity of the J.E.B. officer in youth organisations led to such development that it was found necessary to appoint a J.O.C. secretary to take over that part of the work, and there is still very close co-ordination. In Reading the J.E.B. officer compiled a list of clubs, etc., open to young people for the use of the After-Care Visitors. All J.E.Cs. keep record cards on which is included a note of the juvenile organisation to which the school leaver belongs, whether it be Sunday School or Club. When School Leavers' Conferences are held, a recommendation to attend Evening Classes or to continue at a club or to join a youth organisation, as the case may be, is usually part of the advice for his future well-being. But the main concern, particularly of the J.A.C., is naturally with placing the young person in employment, and many of the Committees, to their own regret, are too busy to do more than mention perfunctorily the question of the use of leisure. Some, owing to pressure of work, reserve such efforts at After-Care for the difficult cases.

Not many towns have the elaborate organisation of After-Care work which London possesses, so that "following up" work can rarely be undertaken. In practice, however, in many Employment Exchanges a great deal of personal work is achieved, especially if the Secretary is particularly interested in juvenile organisations. Since the Leaders of the chief organisations are represented on the Employment Committee, there is much interchange of information regarding the needs of

certain young people. An invitation to come to an open evening at the Exchange on the one hand and to attend a social at the Club on the other is given to the boy or girl, often by presentation of an invitation card. (This is a point which is of great value in the psychology of the adolescent.) In some Exchanges attractive posters of youth organisations are pinned on the wall and well-illustrated handbills of various organisations are available at the counter.

In some areas it has been found that an offer to juveniles on the Exchange register of facilities for keeping up their skill (*e.g.* in type-writing amongst girls) by daily practice in a club-room has been accepted with alacrity, when a similar facility offered in an Evening Institute has met with no response. The great opportunity of the youth organisation to co-operate closely with the Employment Committee is offered when juveniles are transferred from their home area to a district where they are complete strangers. The Divisional Officers of the Ministry of Labour do not sanction the transference of a girl or boy until the Advisory Committee in the area of employment has made suitable arrangements for his welfare. "The receiving committee devote special attention to the juvenile during this early period; and by putting him in touch with organisations and clubs providing suitable interests and recreations do much to make the world less strange, and to combat the temperamental difficulties, especially home-sickness, likely to be occasioned by the sudden change from family life." After-Care reports are transmitted to the home committee. In Reading, where a number of girls from South Wales find employment, there has been great activity in this direction, and a recent development has been the support given by a group of people in Reading towards the establishment of a club for girls in the South Wales coalfield area.

It is increasingly necessary that clubs and similar organisations keep in touch with the Employment Exchanges to offer a welcome to girls and young women transferred from other areas. Not only industrial workers, but domestic workers, trained by the Ministry of Labour, are now amongst those who find employment through the Exchanges. While some officials may be case-hardened, and others through pressure of work are unable to spare time for more than performance of routine duties, there are many Juvenile Employment Officers up and down the country who are not merely officials, but men and women, taking a personal interest in the welfare of the young people passing through their hands.

A great deal of spare time is often given up to juvenile welfare, and a number are actively engaged in club work. Superintendents in the Distressed Areas keep in touch with the young people who have found employment in a more prosperous town and many friendly letters are exchanged. A quotation from a letter sent by a girl who had left South Wales for work in an English factory points the truth that transference is more than an employment problem—it affects the very life and soul of the boy or girl: "I am very happy in my place. It is very beautiful

here and I have joined the Girl Guides, so my happiness is complete, except for a pang of homesickness now and then, which I quickly overcome."

In another direction, too, clubs may play a useful part. It is early yet to predict the effect of Junior Instruction Centres on the desire of young people for the cultivation of wider interests in their leisure hours. Where there is a close link between club leaders and the staff of a Junior Instruction Centre, unemployed boys and girls are given the opportunity of coming into touch with club activities. The club leader or club union secretary may be invited to address the Junior Instruction Centre scholars, and an invitation to the club will follow—*e.g.* in Liverpool. Or the Junior Instruction Centre may form a club of its own and members continue their attachment when they leave for employment. In this way the employed and unemployed are happily mixed. In Birkenhead such a club, 100 strong, flourishes, and it is one of the welcome members of the local Girls' Club Union affiliated to the National Council of Girls' Clubs. Another aspect of co-operation is the resulting advantage to the Junior Instruction Centre, faced with great difficulties of organisation, of having amongst its members those who are trained in a club for responsibility, *e.g.* as group leaders. It is hoped, too, that the urgency of the problem of finding suitable premises for Junior Instruction Centres, combined with the knowledge that the number of juveniles leaving school will rapidly diminish in a few years' time, will result in further co-operation between Junior Instruction Centres and Clubs. Where premises can be shared, used as a Junior Instruction Centre in the day-time, and as a social and recreational centre in the evenings, it would seem to be the solution of a problem which might otherwise involve much wasteful expenditure on new buildings which may be redundant in the future (*cf.* Valentine Bell's Report on *Junior Instruction Centres and their Future*, Chapter IX.).

In Nottingham, unemployed girls, though few, attended day and evening classes of the Advance Club held in the premises of the Clarendon Institute. In the words of the Director of Education, "It was hoped that the result of holding the classes on club premises would be that the youths and girls attending would become members of a Club and continue their membership after they had found employment and ceased to attend the Junior Instruction Classes."

To sum up the opportunities for close co-operation between Juvenile Employment Committees and youth organisations we cannot do better than quote from the report of the Ministry of Labour :

"The work of advising and finding suitable employment for the hundreds of individuals of varied types, capacities and requirements with which each Committee deals, brings each year a widening of the Committees' contacts and co-operation with other bodies concerned in juvenile welfare. The treatment of special cases, in particular, leads the Committees to explore new avenues and illustrates the varied nature of the functions which Committees are being called upon to perform.

Mention has been made in previous reports of the co-operation established with clubs and kindred organisations. The particular form which this may take may be illustrated by an arrangement made by one of the London Committees with the local troop of Scouts, by which the latter referred to the committee boys in the troop who needed assistance in finding work, while the Committee kept the troop in touch with any boys recently transferred into the area who seemed to be in need of the friendship of boys of their own age. The practice of encouraging unemployed boys and girls to join clubs or some other form of juvenile organisation is a regular part of the work; while several Committees have taken a foremost part in establishing new clubs or occupational centres for juveniles."

Club Premises and Playing Fields.—We cannot leave the question of the relationship between youth organisations and statutory authorities without reference to the question of premises and playing fields.

Next to the urgent need for trained leaders and expert advisers, the most vexed question is the lack of adequate premises and playgrounds. Many clubs meet in a hall or rooms which are used by a number of other organisations. The one-night-a-week Church Club is particularly liable to have its evening broken into for one unavoidable reason or another. It may be that the pressure of accommodation necessitates the use of a hall by more than one organisation during an evening. There is never any hope under those circumstances of expanding unless a hall can be booked elsewhere. In some areas the only premises available are the school, and some authorities generously allow the use of the school at a nominal rent, perhaps covering only light and heat, sometimes including the caretaker's fee. In the case of Old Scholars' Clubs, as we have seen, the schools are lent entirely free. In many new housing estates the only possible meeting-place for a club is the school. A vivid contrast in the sympathy shown towards this problem is seen in the attitude of two neighbouring educational authorities in the north of England. One makes so high a charge for the use of school halls (9s. an evening, with extra for cloakroom accommodation) that it is prohibitive to any boys' or girls' club. The other offers the hospitality of the school to any organisation requiring it, maintaining that "the school is there to serve the neighbourhood and out of school hours should be at the disposal of other members of the community."

In Birmingham, in order to encourage juvenile and adolescent organisations the Education Committee are prepared to grant the free use of Council school-rooms to approved organisations. This concession will only apply to organisations whose members are between 14 and 18 years of age, or to clubs whose members are under 14, but which exist for the purpose of training and supplying recruits for organisations for adolescents. In the case of Old Scholars' Clubs and After-Care Clubs, the Sub-Committee are prepared to pay caretaker's fees to a limited extent. The Sub-Committee will grant the free use of Council school-rooms to other approved Juvenile Organisations on payment of the

caretaker's fees in accordance with the following scale : Hall, 3s. ; class-rooms, 9d. each, unless only one class-room is used, when the fee is 1s.; playground, 1s.

A similar disparity is observed in the use of school playgrounds. Many authorities allow their use for organised games—*e.g.* netball—either rent-free (which is more rare) or for the payment of a caretaker's fee. But all over the country, leaders of girls' clubs are unable to satisfy the desire of girls to play outdoor games, since most available pitches are already allocated. Where games are allowed in parks and open spaces, it is usual to find public recognition of the need for football and cricket pitches. Very often, however, there is no tradition regarding the needs of girls for opportunities to play outdoor games. Hockey pitches and rounders' pitches are badly needed in most towns. The Liverpool Union of Girls' Clubs, which has well-organised rounders' matches on pitches rented from the Corporation, pleads wistfully :

"With girls their needs are largely inarticulate, since the Union has no playing fields of its own comparable with the 101 acres of ideal playing fields owned by our brother organisation, who rent us our hockey pitch and our rounder pitch." (Annual Report 1934.)

Similarly we find that the longer tradition of sports for men and boys often secures for them the lion's share of swimming nights at the baths. It is remarkable to note the increasing popularity of swimming amongst girls and women all over the country. Wherever new swimming baths are opened the response is immediate and enthusiastic. The training in the elementary schools and the special facilities given to members of Unions and Leagues have no doubt contributed largely to this development.

Many towns—*e.g.* Coventry—alive to the need for greater facilities for swimming, are extending their accommodation. A glance at the figures for Coventry for the last few years illustrates this development :

ATTENDANCES IN THE LADIES' SWIMMING BATH

Year	Ladies	Girls under 16	Schoolgirls ¹
1932-33	40,518	33,833	19,639
1933-34	52,941	37,044	22,391

(up to 17th Feb. 1934).

ATTENDANCES AT THE CENTRAL BATHS

Year	No. of Swimmers of both sexes	Year	No. of Swimmers of both sexes
1898-99	—	1929-30	160,000
1930-31	183,733	1931-32	172,930 ²
1932-33	242,602	1933-34	263,206

(1st April to 27th Jan.)

¹ Organised classes in the charge of a teacher during school hours.

² One Swimming bath closed for five months during alteration.

The number and variety of Ladies' Swimming Clubs is seen from the following table :

LADIES' SWIMMING CLUBS

Number of members	Name of Club	Name of Firm etc.
40	Armstrong Siddeley .	Armstrong Siddeley, Ltd.
10	Transport . . .	Coventry Corporation Transport Dept.
119	*Three Spires . . .	— — —
22	Morris . . .	Morris Motors, Ltd.
317	*Godiva . . .	— — —
47	*Dunlop . . .	Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd.
56	*B.T.H. . . .	British Thomson Houston, Ltd.
76	*Bushills . . .	Thomas Bushill & Sons, Ltd.
51	*Magnet . . .	General Electric Co., Ltd.
11	P.O. . . .	Post Office.
43	Alfred Herberts . .	Alfred Herberts, Ltd.
62	*Central Hall . . .	Methodist Chapel.
51	Earlsdon . . .	— — —
76	Rover . . .	Rover Cars, Ltd.
60	*Kingsfield . . .	J. & J. Cash, Ltd.
21	Gauge . . .	Coventry Gauge & Tool Co., Ltd.
46	*O'Briens . . .	Edward O'Brien, Ltd.
472	*Coventry Swimming and Life Saving Society .	— — —
38	Riley . . .	Riley, Ltd.
28	*Queens Road . . .	Queens Road Sch. Old Girls' Assoc.

NOTE.—Clubs not marked * are mixed clubs, and the numbers given above are the female members of the club.

The Central Hall is used as a centre and club for the unemployed, and the swimming club was formed for the women and girls.

VII. LEISURE AND EVENING CLASSES

THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY

In the wide range of activities offered by Education Authorities to young people through Evening Classes, is it possible to distinguish between leisure-time facilities and purely vocational training? While the Technical Colleges and Schools of Art offer serious courses of study, mainly vocational in character, the Junior and Senior Institutes vary up and down the country according to the policy of the Education Committees and the tradition of the area.

It remains broadly true that young people who continue their education by means of Evening Classes are on the whole those who are

eager to improve their occupational status. It is also true that education authorities, with few exceptions, are alive to the importance of providing opportunities for the development of wider interests, and of awakening response from those who are as yet unconscious of the need for further education. The Director of Education who maintains that "hobbies' classes and recreational classes are not education" is fortunately in the minority, and most schemes for Further Education provide for some general and recreational activities in addition to their vocational courses. A quotation from the Report on Education in Kent will illustrate this outlook :

"A marked tendency in evening work is a demand for courses of a more recreative character. This is inevitable. Hitherto, the ambitious student has attended evening classes to better his position as a workman or rise to a position of responsibility or management. With the changes taking place in industrial organisation, and the alterations which will be necessary through the recruitment of a larger proportion of employees with a secondary or higher education, the opportunities for rising from the lower rungs of the ladder will be fewer. The problem of the technical colleges and institutions for further education will be to provide, partly through day and partly through evening courses, more attention than in the past to the needs of the workman in order not only to help him to become more efficient in his daily work, but also to put him in the way of spending his leisure time suitably and wisely. Well-conceived courses which are purely recreative in aim will be found to be an essential part of further education."

Recreational gymnastics are taking an increasingly important place in the Evening Courses arranged for girls and young women. In some areas a recognition of their value in mental and physical development is seen in the encouragement given to P.T. Organisers to form "Keep Fit" Classes amongst adolescents. In Sunderland the Education Committee give active support to this work, and so great has been the demand from girls and from older women that the organiser is busily training voluntary leaders (most of them school teachers; many gymnasts) to take extra classes and to carry the fire of enthusiasm to other groups in the neighbourhood. A much appreciated impetus to good work has been the permission given by the Education Committee to hold the "Keep Fit" Classes in the halls in the Secondary and Central Schools as well as in the Elementary Schools for the payment of a nominal fee to the caretaker. The members pay from 2d. to 3d. per night. The psychological effects of a well equipped and finely built hall are not the least important factors in the value of this work. The Board of Education and H.M. Inspectors consistently back any such efforts.

In many areas special Institutes concentrate on recreational courses, *e.g.* in London the Women's Institutes are largely of this nature. In Jarrow a special effort was made in one area to attract boys and girls who would not otherwise attend classes, and for a fee of 6d. for the course, young people between 14 and 18 could attend classes in recreational

gymnastics and handicrafts of various kinds. Music was added later, and an operative group was formed largely by dint of much labour of love by the staff. In Sheffield there are (in the poor parts of the town) 2 institutes for boys and 3 for girls, which are mainly social and recreational. In Nottingham the Education Committee planned the building of their Senior Schools in such a way that they should serve not only the school children but the whole neighbourhood. To quote the *Review of the Development of Education in the City of Nottingham* by the Director, Mr A. H. Whipple: "It was the original intention, when the City was divided into sixteen districts, that the Senior Schools in each district should act not only as the centres for advanced instruction of pupils of school age but also as social and educational centres for adults and for youths and girls above the compulsory school age. With this object in view the Evening Institutes have been transferred to premises in Senior Schools."

These are a few examples of the work done in many overcrowded areas of the large industrial towns where attendance at the more formal classes is often low. In the smaller towns and rural areas some County Education Authorities are striving to arouse interest in hobbies and other non-vocational subjects amongst those who would not ordinarily attend Evening Institutes. In the Memorandum on Non-Vocational Courses in Evening Institutes published by the Union of Lancashire and Cheshire Institutes, reference is made to the long established and highly organised provision of education for the adolescent by means of Evening Classes, but nevertheless the Council is concerned at the relatively large number of school leavers who do not proceed to any form of further education, and they conclude that "such students would be better provided for by more informal courses." They suggest such a series of Informal Courses in which no examinations are to be held. "They provide both for those students who wish to extend the education they have received in the elementary school and those who have no definite educational aim but who wish to occupy profitably some of their leisure time in handicrafts, literature, music, physical training, or other useful or recreative pursuits." They have an open mind on the question whether such informal courses would be better provided in clubs or in Evening Institutes.

The Lancashire Education Authority is active in its encouragement of informal classes in towns and villages. Where wider interests make no appeal to the youth in a particular area, purely recreational evenings are organised, as at Fleetwood and Eccles where games and dancing are the chief pursuits.

While some Evening Institutes have a strongly developed social side, this would seem to be by no means general. Most Technical and Art Colleges have their student association, but the majority of Junior and Senior Institutes confine their social activities to a terminal or a Christmas party. Otherwise they offer a series of independent classes with little sense of corporate life. In London the Women's Institutes

foster the social side by provision, in some cases, of a common-room where students can read and play games, and there are facilities for the sale of refreshments. The ideal to be striven for by the Heads of Evening Institutes is set out in the *L.C.C. Evening Institute Handbook*, page 7: "An important feature of the Women's Institutes should be the development of social activities, so as to foster a spirit of community among the students and to afford them opportunities for the formation of friendships and encourage them to interest themselves in each other's needs and pursuits. To achieve this there are two main essentials: (1) the institute should be made, as far as is possible, an attractive and convenient place of social intercourse; (2) students should be encouraged to take responsibility in promoting the common interests of the institute." (A reminder is inserted that no student may attend the institute for the social activities only.)

The Literary Institutes in London, though attended in the main by adults who have a fair background of education, and providing as their most popular subjects the appreciation of Art or of Architecture, also have a number of clubs, rambling, tennis, and dramatic societies, etc., and any young members who join the Institutes find themselves in a happy and friendly atmosphere.

One of the Polytechnics (Regent Street) has a definitely social side as well as an educational side to its work, and several thousands of young men and women join for the social facilities only. There is a men's council and a women's council elected by the members, and each section has its own social club housed in separate buildings. Certain societies are open to men and women, *e.g.* Choral and Orchestral Society, Concert Party, Dramatic Society, Rambling Club, and Sketch Club, Debates, French, Study Groups, Religious Discussion Groups, and the Polytechnic "Parliament," etc., have separate sections for men and women, but inter-group discussions, etc., are arranged and the women may invite their men friends to a mixed evening. The Polytechnic is also open on Sundays: in the afternoon for men with music and an address; in the evening for a combined Religious Service conducted by the Polytechnic Chaplain. "Family Gatherings" on the first and last Sunday of the Winter Session are open to members, students, and their friends. "The aim of the Polytechnic is to provide complete educational facilities as well as a club and rendezvous for young people between the ages of 16 and 26, where every reasonable facility is available for the training of the mind and the body; where true friendship may be cultivated; and where a steadfast character may be formed and the example provided to lead an upright and unselfish life." The fees for membership of the Social Club are 7s. 6d. per annum for women, 10s. 6d. per annum for men (plus a registration fee of 1s.). Day students of the Polytechnic (men and women) pay 5s.

In Nottingham, an Evening Institute, known as "The Advance Club," has the exclusive use of a former Council School which has been suitably furnished for the purpose. The social side of the work has been

strongly developed, and the numbers on the books have increased from 147 to over 1000. This club is one of several under the L.E.A.¹

A few enterprising and enthusiastic Heads of Evening Institutes plan group holidays for their members in either camps or holiday homes. In London several parties from Evening Institutes have gone abroad.

But it remains true that to the majority of young people Evening Institutes offer no appeal. The Cardiff Juvenile Employment Committee find that it is the juveniles from the better homes who are more attracted, but that those who cannot afford to learn trades or to enter clerical occupations see no use in attending. A detailed enquiry in Sheffield pointed to a similar conclusion. "The boys and girls included in the enquiry were asked whether they had attended evening classes for at least one session since leaving school. The replies which were received to this question, grouped according to the family circumstances of the boys and girls, are summarised below."

A SURVEY OF JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT AND WELFARE IN SHEFFIELD
SHEFFIELD SOCIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE

Family circumstances	Percentages of boys and girls who had attended Evening Classes for at least one session since leaving school	
	Boys	Girls
Good	52·4	40·3
Moderate	40·2	23·4
Poor	25·3	10·7
Very Poor	19·8	20·2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Totals 32·2	20·6

Many Local Education Authorities recognise that the formal atmosphere of the class-rooms repels a great many young workers, and they are trying to bridge the gap by encouraging educational activities within the more informal meetings organised by voluntary associations. (See Part I. Sec. VI.)

It would perhaps be of interest to study a little more closely the conditions of enrolment in Evening Institutes, the relative appeal of vocational and non-vocational courses to adolescents, and the proportion of young people of various ages who continue their education by attendance at Evening Classes.

From a study of enrolment and attendances in the Evening Classes of some 35 Education Authorities (including both Borough and County Education Authorities) in different parts of the country, certain points emerge. Most of these Authorities encourage elementary school leavers to continue their education by introducing them to Evening Classes

¹ The Director of Education writes: "We have strongly encouraged, since 1924, social sides in Evening Institutes, and this policy has resulted in more than doubling the attendances at Evening Institutes. The social side is the more successful in Institutes for girls and women than in those for boys and men, probably because women superintendents believe in it while men superintendents are only partially converted to it."

during their last term at school and by granting certain concessions in the payment of fees. It is customary to grant either free admission or entrance upon payment of a registration fee (6d. or 1s.) to those who enrol within a specified time. Some charge half-fees, while others accept the full fee, returning it at the end of the session subject to a satisfactory report of attendance and progress. Most authorities offer free student-ships into the second and third year to those who fulfil the required conditions: a somewhat high percentage of attendances is expected, in some instances reaching 95 per cent. The fee for Junior Institutes varies between 2s. and 5s. a course in urban districts. That for Senior Institutes and Technical and Art Colleges is proportionately higher. Most authorities have a clause allowing free entrance in exceptional circumstances (sometimes including all unemployed).

A point of interest relevant to a consideration of the attendance of juveniles at Evening Classes is the fact that vocational courses are usually¹ grouped and young people under 18 (or under 21) are expected to attend three evenings a week with a minimum of six hours. Sometimes a fourth evening, mainly social and recreational, is optional and free to those whose attendance cards are adequately signed. General and Recreational courses usually entail a minimum attendance of two nights a week for the same age-group. Single classes and one night a week attendance is permitted only to adults, and they are encouraged where possible to take a grouped course.

So we find that in many areas the "hobbies" classes are better attended by adults than by juniors. (It is estimated that in Cardiff while the young people attend the vocational courses the hobbies and handicrafts classes are attended chiefly by those over 30.) Of the "21 and over" age-group the great majority are women. This may partly be associated with the fact that many enrol for the homecraft subjects specially organised for them.

In contrast to the adult grouping we find that boys usually considerably outnumber girls in the 14 to 21 age-group. Occasionally girls are numerically stronger in the first year after leaving school, but it is noticeable that after the first year the drop in attendance for girls is very steep. There is usually a decline in boy membership, too, but not nearly so sharp, and once the 15 to 16 year is past the attendance is generally fairly steady. Girls sometimes pick up in the 17 to 18 or 18 to 21 age-group, but not until after 21 does their total generally exceed the men's.

The figures for the percentage attendance of juveniles show great variation over the country. Differences of tradition, of industrial background, of prosperity or depression, affect the attitude towards continued education. In some areas employers demand of their young workers attendance at Evening Institutes (though this is more applicable to boys

¹ All but one of the questionnaires showed compulsory grouped courses in vocational subjects. In Sheffield, while each student is advised to undertake a number of correlated subjects of instruction, he is not compelled to do so. In practice it is found that the majority of students take two or more subjects.

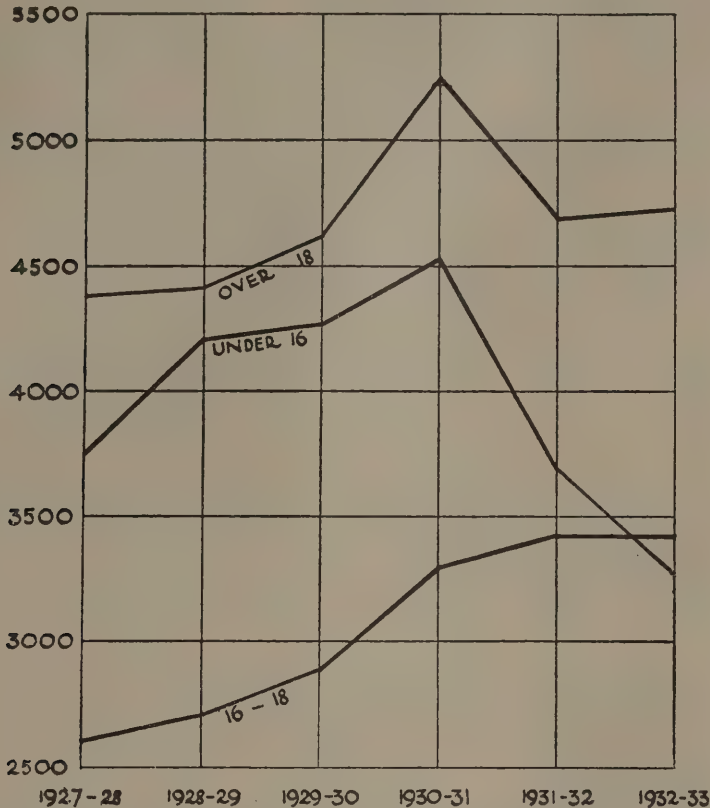
than to girls). Unemployment and poverty may sap the desire for classes, and the young person affected sees no material advantages in attending. But in areas where dependent's benefit is made conditional on attendance, the Evening Class enrolment is swelled. This occurs, too, when there is compulsory attendance of unemployed juveniles as a condition of receipt of unemployment benefit. All these factors make a comparison between different areas misleading, but we can draw certain general conclusions from available figures. Looking at the percentage of girl school leavers who proceed direct to Evening Classes, we find a fluctuation from 10·8 per cent. (in a depressed industrial town in Durham) to 65 per cent. (in an industrial town in Lancashire). In some of the coastal towns of the north-east the membership drops to negligible proportions. The majority have attendances varying from 15 to 35 per cent. It would probably be true to say that taking the country as a whole, less than one-third of the girls leaving school proceed to Evening Classes. If we add to that the fact that large numbers drop off during and after the first year, we are faced with a very large proportion of girls who are not attracted by the opportunities offered by Education Authorities for the use of their evening leisure hours.

We cannot leave the subject of attendance at Evening Classes without referring to the check which was given to the development of Further Education by the industrial depression. Consideration of enrolments over a period of years shows a general increase to a peak year (usually 1930), and then a considerable drop in 1933. Some of these begin to show a slight increase for 1933-34, but the increase is not always proportionate to the increased number of school leavers. Bradford, which has a fine tradition of educational work, has been forced owing to lack of funds to discontinue its classes in connection with 2 Play Centres for boys and girls of from 14 to 18 years of age, "of the type who will not attend evening schools." An interesting point to consider in connection with the reduced enrolments is that the percentage of actual student hours to possible student hours has in several cases increased with the decrease in enrolments, indicating that the more serious student has responded to the facilities offered. A graph prepared by the Kent Education Committee (see *Education in Kent*, page 101) reproduced below with explanatory paragraph, brings out the effort on various age-groups.

"It will be seen from the accompanying graph which deals with the attendance of students at evening classes in urban areas, that the number of students under sixteen has shown a steep decline during the last two sessions. There has been an increase in the number of students between the ages of sixteen and eighteen, an increase partly due to the compulsory attendance of unemployed juveniles as a condition of receipt of unemployment benefit. The number of students over eighteen decreased considerably in 1931-32, but there has been a slight increase in the last session.

"While the financial stringency imposed upon the Committee as

a result of the crisis of 1931 is largely responsible for the fall in the number of classes formed and of students in attendance, there have been other contributory factors. The depression during the years 1920-23 coincided with a heavy drop in the numbers attending evening classes, and there seems to be no doubt that in times of industrial depression students are less ready to attend classes."



Enrolments at Evening Classes in Urban Areas, Sessions 1927-28 to 1932-33.

After reading the draft Report of *Youth and Leisure* the Director of Education for Nottingham sent the following notes :

"Something more is required to attract school leavers. Not one-seventh join Evening Institutes at fourteen years. The number aged fifteen years is still less. Apparently they should be encouraged to attend for one evening a week if they find two or three evenings too great a strain, and the work should be even more recreational than it is now. Probably a wider choice of subjects should be given and the spirit of the Play Centre should be introduced.

"The change from 27½ hours' school work to 48 to 52 hours' factory work is no light one, and very serious study can hardly be expected therefore from boys and girls of fourteen or fifteen years. Something more should be done to bridge that gap.

"We give each leaver leaflets showing what the Juvenile Organisations can offer, and we try to get each boy or girl to join. We also grant free admission to Evening Institutes. Something more is still required. Our experience as to the numbers attending Evening Institutes is different from that in Kent. There has been a progressive increase since 1924, without a decrease in any year."

VIII. WORKS' CLUBS AND OTHER LEISURE-TIME PROVISION IN INDUSTRY

THE provision made for the leisure time of employees has varied from an almost overwhelming paternalism to that of complete indifference. The attitude towards "Industrial Welfare" has changed somewhat during the last years and there is a tendency to distinguish between Health and Safety measures and Labour Management on the one hand and recreational facilities on the other. Some sections, *e.g.* the Trade Unions, would limit the field of activity of employers in industry strictly to the former group. Knowing that workers who have their interests aroused are contented workers, they have been suspicious lest interest in recreation associated with the works should make men too satisfied with their conditions. Moreover, they have felt that, with girls especially, money and time devoted to works' activities would distract attention from Trade Union activities. So strong was this feeling in some quarters that it gave an impetus to the formation of the National Workers' Sports Association. With its roots in the old Clarion Cycling Club, it was founded "to unite the workers of the world through sport, to encourage, promote and control amateur sport and recreation among working class organisations." It is consciously an alternative to the facilities offered by Employers' Welfare Schemes and it is making a strong bid to attract youth to its support. The majority of those affected are men.

The varied interests provided for the leisure time of their employees by such old-established firms as Rowntree's, of York, Cadbury's, of Bournville, and Port Sunlight, on Merseyside, are too well known to need further description.

On the whole there is a tendency in works' recreation schemes to concentrate on sports clubs and socials. Most large factories have a hall and canteen on the works, with sports grounds, usually some distance away. The various clubs are generally run by a committee of the workers, and inter-league matches are arranged. Enquiries in a large number of factories point to the fact that girls take comparatively little advantage of these facilities. They are not so ready as men to travel out to the sports grounds, and they are not so keen to organise themselves into teams. Where girls are active it is often found that the majority of members work on the office staff and few are manual workers. Some factories run dramatic clubs and musical societies, and these, as mixed clubs, are often very successful. In Lancashire the Fine Cotton Spinners' Association organises competitions in swimming and drama between the various mills, and these arouse great enthusiasm. Yet it is remarked that the support comes mostly from the older women. In the words of one Welfare Superintendent: "Is it that the girls of to-day are

feckless or is it due to the fact that their energy is sapped by spending the whole day in the heat ? ”

There is a diversity of opinion amongst welfare superintendents as to whether or not they should run all-round clubs for girls within a factory. Many of them feel that a girl wants to get away from the factory at the end of a day's work and seek her interests outside. Moreover, they claim that they are not trained as club leaders, but as labour managers, and that club leadership is expert work. On the other hand, it is maintained that it is good that girls who work together should play together. If girls working in different departments can be brought together, that is going far to break down exclusiveness. In Farsley, between Bradford and Leeds, where other facilities are absent, a works' club has been running for some years. It has successfully brought into membership girls from the spinning mill and girls from the weaving mill, where there was strong feeling of superiority of status. Senior members act as helpers and one of them runs the junior club (a small section only of the workers are juniors). Meetings are held from 6 to 8 p.m. once a week, and the climax to the year's activities is reached when the club goes off for its summer holiday, encouraged by the firm, who release the welfare supervisor for the purpose.

In Rochdale, where works' clubs form an active group in the Union of Girls' Clubs, girls from different mills belonging to the same firm meet in one of the mills in a joint club. Close and friendly association exists between the various clubs and the Girl Guide companies, and there is a loose federation which can be joined by any group, even if it only wishes to play rounders or hold a gym. class. The membership of the works' clubs is roughly half and half for juniors and seniors.

In Rugby, where one large engineering firm (B.T.H.) provides more than two-thirds of the total employment of the district, the welfare scheme is comprehensive. Nearly 1000 girls are employed, of whom those from 14 to 16 are in the offices, while all those on the machines are over 16. The 14 to 16-year-old workers attend the Rugby Day Continuation School (which is compulsory) and the firm makes elaborate provision for the social and recreational activities of its employees. The sports section receives enthusiastic support from a large proportion of the men, but it has been found very difficult to arouse the girls to keenness. The responsibility for organising the various sports clubs is left to the workers, while the firm provides the opportunities. Once again it was found difficult to find leaders amongst the girls who would undertake the secretaryship. (It must be remembered that a great many of these girl workers are young and many of them come in from the country round. Rugby itself, apart from this industry, is practically a country town.) The firm has, however, appointed a full-time leader to run a girls' club for all-round activities. An interesting feature of this effort is that the premises are not in the works, but in a club house in the town. The club has a membership of nearly 300, of which a keen but somewhat smaller group provides a strong nucleus of attendance.

In Hull a similar club away from the works is supported by Reckitt's for their girl employees, and they are enthusiastic members of the Hull Federation of Girls' Clubs.

There is a third alternative to the works' club within the factory or in the town, and many workers amongst juveniles favour this form of provision. Some firms support local clubs which are open to girls of any occupation. Many of the large open clubs in the country with full-time paid leaders receive generous donations from firms or from those connected with large works. Many labour managers are also to be found as voluntary helpers in clubs and some play an active part in the local Union outside the factory.

This form of co-operation has the advantage of offering wider interests to the girls without the disadvantages attendant on long hours in the same premises and with the same personnel. In many areas, however, it is difficult to find suitable premises for a club, while the large and often well-equipped hall of the works is ideal for recreational purposes. (Several firms lend their halls free of charge for Union rallies, e.g. in Nottingham.)

In the *Survey of Merseyside*, vol. iii. p. 312, Mr Caradog Jones discusses this problem with reference to the difficulty of finding playing fields when workers' homes are some distance from the factory. He makes some interesting suggestions: "It might, however, be possible to arrange some method by which the facilities provided by firms could be to some extent pooled. . . . If this were planned on a sufficiently large scale, it might have the effect of breaking up the rigid social unit of the firm. For it is at least doubtful whether it is desirable that the chance associations of employment should govern the leisure-time activities of the worker.

"It would probably be agreed that where possible the employee whose work-time associates will generally be of the same age and sex as himself, should in his leisure belong to groups affording greater variety, drawn together either by the proximity of their members' homes or by some common interest or activity. At the same time it must be recognised that at present the larger firms frequently provide admirable facilities for recreation which their employees cannot obtain elsewhere."

It is usually true that it is in the larger, well-organised firms that good welfare schemes are to be found and any clubs organised can meet in well-built, airy premises. The real problem exists for the many thousands of girls who work in a number of small factories and workshops where there is no welfare superintendent and where, in spite of factory inspection, conditions are very poor. In such works as gut cleaning, some of the processes in metal work and electrical work, and in many laundries, conditions are such that girls need healthy activities in beautiful surroundings to compensate for the hours of dirty, sometimes unhealthy, work during the day. This is particularly true of girls who work as buffers in the steel industry, where it is customary for large firms to employ little masters, who engage a team of girl workers.

It is natural for these girls to turn to mere distraction at the end of the day, but their need for guided leisure-time activities is none the less great because they are unconscious of their lack.

The influence of employers in industry upon the spare-time activities of their young workers is not confined to provision of recreational and social facilities. Some continuation schools are conducted by firms and by Local Education Authorities on behalf of firms for the junior workers during the day-time, but others rely on attendance at Evening School after the day's work is finished. In Lancashire and in other industrial parts of the country it is common to find that employers expect their junior workers to go on to Evening School, and various inducements to attend are given. In some firms promotion depends upon education reports. Some pay the fees and many arrange that no overtime is to be expected if it interrupts a course of study. Many educationalists question whether too much pressure on young people to take up a continuous course of study in the subjects to which their attention is directed all day might not give them a permanent distaste for spontaneous effort at a later stage, depriving them of the opportunity for cultivating wider and more cultural interests.

IX. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN RELATION TO THE PROBLEM OF LEISURE

1.—ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND SOCIAL BACKGROUND

A STUDY of leisure-time facilities brings us face to face with a number of related sociological problems. Many of these need much further study before any final conclusions can be drawn, but some correlations are indicated and certain questions suggested which may be significant for our enquiry.

Industrial and economic development in different parts of the country affect social customs, which in their turn condition the provision of recreational facilities, *e.g.* an area where the heavy industries are predominant and where women's employment is negligible will differ in many aspects of its social life from one where women's work is general. If we compare the mining districts of Durham and Northumberland with the cotton towns of Lancashire, we find different traditions regarding women's activities. In the North-East women and girls have (in the days of prosperity) been needed at home to help to look after their men-folk returning in shifts from the mines. Consequently the girls early took on household responsibility. They developed a spirit of rugged independence, but their interests were largely centred in the home, and they did not as a rule take any active part in outside activities. They tended to have boy friends at an early age—it was considered

a failure not to "have a boy" at 16 or so—and early marriages were customary. It is interesting to note that whereas for England and Wales as a whole the percentage of married women under 21 years of age to all married women was 16, in Northumberland and Durham it was 21.5 per cent. South Wales, with a percentage of 20, is a comparable district. (See Registrar-General's statistical Review of England and Wales for 1932.)

In many of the small industrial towns to be found along Tyneside with a population of 20,000 to 30,000, the heavy industries predominate. There is little or no cultural tradition, and few people of education or leisure have settled there. There is little consciousness of the need for the awakening of wider interests, and the tendency of the local people is to say that there is no need for girls' clubs; "the girls wouldn't want them." But it is interesting to find that the development of organisations such as Girl Guide Companies and Girls' Life Brigade Companies for the younger girls has flourished and is only held up for lack of leaders, and all those working amongst girls would welcome clubs for the older members.

In Lancashire, women's work in the cotton mills has been traditional, and many women continue to work after marriage or "go weave sick" (*cf.* West Riding of Yorkshire and the woollen mills) for one who is unavoidably absent. Women and girls take an active interest in outside events (it is significant that Women's Trade Unions are strongest in this industry), and they are used to expressing their opinions equally with their men-folk. In Lancashire and Cheshire combined, the percentage of married women under 21 years of age to all married women is only 15; less than that for England and Wales as a whole. The development of recreational facilities is considerably greater in Lancashire than in the North-East, where the proportion of youth organisations to the total juvenile population is small.

The depression of the past years is leading to changes in the social life of these areas. Girls whose fathers and brothers can no longer find work in the mines are forced to seek employment outside their own towns. Many are going into service in the more prosperous towns of the South. The busy home-life and self-sufficiency of the scattered towns and villages of the North-East are often things of the past, but social tradition remains strong and adds greatly to the difficulties of adjustment. While leisure time was limited and the mining village remained the centre of interest, the need for outside activities was not felt. To-day, when women and girls are no longer fully occupied in the home, and when a steady and often good income has given place to public assistance, new needs have arisen. Durham City and Sunderland are constantly being asked to send out trained helpers to clubs in the county. An active interest is beginning to be shown in the development of recreational gymnastics, in music, and in dramatic work. But those who come into the mining areas from "outside" must have an understanding of the social conditions which have built up a strong independ-

ence of spirit. They may find an attitude of aloofness which is sometimes attributed to resentment of "intrusion" or to "shyness" in the face of unusual circumstances. The isolation of many of the towns and mining villages is being gradually overcome by the improvement in transport. Wider facilities for social intercourse and recreation should do much to break down barriers.

In Lancashire the girls are not taking kindly to the idea that they should seek employment in domestic service. Unlike the girls in mining areas, they are not used to housework and many of them do not feel fitted for it. Moreover, they cling to the hope that trade will revive, when they can return to the mills. For these girls an adequate provision of recreational facilities is a necessity, and whenever opportunities are offered they hasten to take advantage of them.

(*N.B.*—The amazing development of "Keep-Fit" Classes within a few weeks of launching the scheme—see section on Clubs and Unemployment.)

In some of the industrial towns of the North, too, where the mills or shipyards have dominated the town, very few amenities brighten the grim atmosphere. Consequently they are not attractive as residential centres for those who can afford to live elsewhere, and the town is entirely a working-class area. This vitally affects the question of leisure-time facilities on all sides. It is difficult to find adequate premises. Local efforts to support clubs are necessarily limited, since the incomes of the residents leave little in excess of household needs. Moreover, the question of leadership is a vexed problem, since most of the women in the area have had neither the opportunities to develop wider interests nor the time to devote to running clubs, etc., for young people.

It is difficult to estimate the part played by geographical factors in determining the provision of social and recreational facilities. Is the apathy so frequently to be found in the South-West to be traced to climatic conditions or the distance from industrial centres of life? While Merseyside is full of vitality, is the peculiar position of Chester part cause of the lack of enthusiasm amongst young people for leisure-time pursuits whether at Evening School or in the club? Does the fact that a town is a cathedral town affect its outlook and its social life? Many such towns are traditionally divided into social groups, each section mutually exclusive, with custom securely entrenched. Similarly, many garrison towns have a social tradition which is very strong, and there may be no intercourse between those who are "Navy" or "Army" and those who are not. It is common, too, to find a conservative outlook which is satisfied with things as they are, brooking no "interference" from outside.

Yet these are the very towns where co-operation in providing healthy interests for girls and young women is particularly desirable.

In another instance, a town may have been so rapidly industrialised that in the swelling tide of material prosperity little account is taken of the need for cultural development. In such a town in the

prosperous Midlands where population has more than doubled since the War there was a constant influx of "outsiders" to the rapidly expanding factories, and it has been difficult to arouse a sense of civic pride in the town. This spirit is reflected in the inadequacy of the provision for young people's welfare, particularly in recreational and social facilities.

Another large group of towns where special conditions prevail are the seaside resorts all round the coast of England and Wales. Work in most of these is highly seasonal. In addition to local girls, other workers stream in from surrounding places every year for two or three months, when long hours are offset by interests and excitement unknown in their home town or village. Employment is provided for domestic servants, for waitresses in cafés and hotels, and often for large numbers on the beach as stall or kiosk girls; while places of amusement offer opportunities to many more.

The long hours of work and the many distractions afforded in the bright summer evenings make the organisation of clubs difficult. Many such towns are lacking in adequate provision for young people who are living away from home influence, often in cramped accommodation. The National Organisations, G.F.S., Y.W.C.A., C.A.W.G., have hostels in many such resorts, but they are usually too expensive for these seasonal workers. Sometimes the club is open to them and invitations are issued. Whenever a girl is found employment through the Ministry of Labour she is put in touch with a committee member, who looks after her welfare. In some centres an emergency bed is provided (a very necessary step, where a girl is liable to be dismissed at a moment's notice or when sleeping accommodation is not prepared for her on her arrival), but the great majority of seasonal workers are not reached by these efforts.

(*N.B.*—The special work done for fruit pickers is described earlier—see Y.W.C.A.)

Finally, there are the rural areas to be considered: villages and small towns, sometimes far removed from any populous centres, and dependent largely on their own resources. For young people of the past, the school and the Church were the pivots of leisure-time activities. The G.F.S. early established itself in connection with the Church and was often the only club available. Since then, Girl Guide Companies have also spread to the villages, and other groups are represented. The Women's Institutes have become the centre of village life for women, but with one or two exceptions they have no junior branches. Every Institute is free to decide at what age girls can become members. Sixteen is a common age, but where there is no club in the village for younger girls the age of admission is often 14. While practice varies from district to district, many Institutes meet in the afternoon, and unless a girl works at home she is rarely free to attend then. Generally speaking, the activities reflect the wishes of the older members, but it often happens, however, that the younger members take an active part in any social activity

arranged, *e.g.* a concert or dramatic performance. From the questionnaires received from rural areas it would seem that many leaders of the older organisations deplore the many "distractions" of to-day in contrast to the single village function of the past when every one attended. The distance of the nearest town and the ease of transport often determine whether or not a visit to the shops or to the cinema will take the place of the one-time attraction in the school hall. It is not easy to estimate the part played by the wireless in country districts. The rapid development of Young Farmers' Clubs (described on p. 22) illustrates, however, the appeal of an active interest which demands individual enterprise and thought. The joy of creative work set against the passive acceptance of "pastimes" will always attract the more adventurous, and others, less quick to respond at first, may later be stimulated by the enthusiasm of the pioneers. It is, however, difficult to overcome social barriers in rural areas, and it often happens that the sons and daughters of farmers, and not the children of farm labourers, are to be found in the Young Farmers' Clubs in the villages. In other centres, more often in the small towns, where there is a younger membership and Young Farmers' Clubs are associated with the elementary school, children from families of lower income level are represented. The movement is young yet, and many villages all over the country may be drawn into supporting clubs which stimulate young people to take an active interest in agricultural pursuits and which offer valuable opportunities for individual effort. Where all the associations in an area are co-ordinated, *e.g.* where there is a Rural Community Council, the value to the individual units and to the life of the county as a whole is greatly enhanced.

Before leaving the question of the relation of economic conditions and social background to the use of leisure, we should note the fact that a considerable number of girls stay at home and do not seek employment. This applies to girls belonging to families both in the lower and in the higher income category. In the former a great many girls stay at home for about a year, if not more, helping their mothers in the house, and many school leavers are in no hurry to find employment but are content to stay at home for some months. These facts are borne out by the Census figures (1931), which show a greater proportion of girls than of boys not gainfully occupied (this does not include those returned as "out of work").

The Board of Education returns also show that fewer girls than boys go on to the Secondary Schools.

EXTRACT FROM "EDUCATION IN 1933" (BOARD OF
EDUCATION, 1934). TABLE 7

England and Wales	Percentages	
	Girls	Boys
Leaving public elementary schools for secondary schools in 1933 ¹	14·0	16·0
Leaving for other full-time educational institutions (junior technical, etc.)	4·6	5·7
	18·6	21·8
Leaving for employment	79·8	76·9
Leaving for other reasons	1·6	1·3
	100·0	100·0

COMPILED FROM EXTRACTS FROM *MINISTRY OF LABOUR
GAZETTE*, OCTOBER 1934

Age-Group	1931 Census. Numbers and proportions enumerated as "occupied" in Gt. Britain						Proportions available for employment	
	Total numbers enumerated		Numbers "occupied "		Proportion of occupied to total			
	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
14 years . . .	(Thou 343	sands) 349	(Thou 137	sands) 180	(Perce 40·0	ntage) 51·6	43·25	55·0
15 years . . .	360	365	219	271	60·8	74·3	61·5	75·0
16 and 17 years . .	794	786	600	695	75·6	88·5	76·0	89·0
16 years . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	71·75	84·0
17 years . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	80·25	94·0

(Calculated from 1931 Census and from registrations at Employment Exchanges.)

Many of these girls, through juvenile organisations, have the opportunity of making outside contacts and of developing wider interests which would otherwise be denied them. A certain number of girls who have had wider opportunities for developing interests and abilities are free to devote some time to juvenile welfare either as voluntary helpers in clubs or as company officers, etc., and many have already been given the stimulus to this work through training in their school days.

¹ Of the total girl leavers 75·5 per cent. were under the age of 15, and did not proceed to higher education, as compared with 72·3 per cent. of boy leavers.

Wales: Numbers leaving public elementary schools for secondary schools in 1933: 25·2 per cent. girls; 25·6 per cent. boys. Note the higher proportion of girls and boys in Wales proceeding to secondary schools, and the closer approximation between boys and girls, as compared with that for England and Wales.

2.—CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

Mr J. J. Hammond in *The Age of the Chartists* and *The Bleak Age* has vividly illustrated the relation between economic conditions and mental attitudes. Considering some of the effects of rapid industrial development, he says: "Long hours of unsatisfactory work and poor conditions of life inevitably increase the demand for mere relaxation and low-level entertainment during leisure, just as they increase the demand for catchwords in politics and nostrum-enthusiasm in economics."

Conversely, what may not be the potentialities of the shorter working day towards which industry is moving? But the shorter working day is by no means universal yet, and for many the hours of leisure are severely curtailed. A system of periodic overtime or a change over to the two-shift system severely checks the opportunities for social and recreational activities and interrupts any planned course of vocational or non-vocational study. When the practice of short-time working or of Temporary Stoppage exists, the whole outlook of the worker may be affected, and the break in a steady and regular flow of work and the alternation of busy days and days of idleness induce a restlessness of spirit which penetrates his whole life and he finds it increasingly difficult to concentrate on any activity which requires thought. This evil is particularly manifest during prolonged periods of unemployment when the psychological effects are difficult to combat.

But the question of how a man uses his leisure is affected not only by the hours but by conditions of work. Dr Bakke, in his study of the unemployed man, maintains that "no one who has not shared the life of the worker can realise the number of points at which the ultimate decision as to his way of life rests with others. Habit breeds attitudes. When so much of your life is ordered by others why pretend to be able to do anything yourself with the rest" (*The Unemployed Man* (1933), p. 10); and on p. 34 of the same work we find the following conclusion: "If there are factors which stimulate men to diligent effort they will be found largely outside the processes by which they make their living." If this is true it is vital to civilisation that those factors should be considered.

How far are these conclusions applicable to young people, particularly girls and young women? The characteristic features of industrial development in our time have been, on the one hand, mechanisation, with the resulting increase in the number of repetitive processes, and on the other, the vast expansion of the distributive trades. Both these developments closely affect young people. In the Ministry of Labour Report on Juvenile Employment for 1933 we are told that the distributive trades give employment to more insured boys and girls than any other five industries or trades taken together. Yet these are the trades which are notorious for long working hours and, a particu-

larly significant point, these are the trades where much of the work is of a non-progressive nature. When we turn to the manufacturing trades we find that "the introduction of repetitive processes which can be done equally well by a juvenile as by an adult, has made many classes of employment in the older industries equally non-progressive."

With respect to long hours of work, the Shops Act, 1934, will limit the normal hours of employment of young people under 18 years of age with a definite limit upon overtime. This will affect girls in shops who are amongst those working particularly long hours, and it will make for improvement, too, in the Catering Trades, which have at present excessive hours of work. But it will take two years before legislation will give effect to a 48-hour week for young persons, and we must remember that many shop-girls between 18 and 25, would-be members of clubs, are outside the scope of the Act.

The system of short-time working is unfortunately common in some of the "special" areas, *e.g.* in Lancashire, particularly in the coarse cotton section of the trade, where many young girls are affected. In other towns we find certain trades subject to seasonal fluctuations where spells of slackness are followed by a rush period with daily overtime working, *e.g.* the fur trade and woollen manufacturing trades.

One more evil in connection with young people's employment which has a close bearing on the use of leisure is that associated with a district where there is a wide choice of employment amongst juveniles and constant demand for their labour (*e.g.* some of the prosperous Midland towns). Such conditions often result in a big juvenile labour turnover when a certain proportion of boys and girls are in and out of jobs far too frequently, until they find it difficult to settle down to any consecutive piece of work. They are forming habits of mind which seriously affect their outlook on life, colouring not only their working hours but their leisure time.

Another group of young people whose hours of work condition the use of their leisure time are those who are employed in hotels and boarding-houses. Waitresses, etc., must be on duty when others have their free time and their own breaks come at odd times, *e.g.* in the morning (this would apply, too, to actresses), when opportunities for recreation are seldom available. Sometimes an area is to be found in a large town, *e.g.* Bloomsbury, London, where some hundreds of such workers are congregated practically without facilities for recreation. (See Part II. Sec. III.)

The returns from club leaders on the question of hours of work of club members and the effect on their leisure time show, in the great majority of cases, that shop assistants and domestic workers are the two groups most often prevented from attending regularly or punctually. Factory girls have spells of overtime, but generally speaking the normal working day is shorter than the legal maximum. Many leaders report long working days in laundries, where girls often work the full time

allowed by the Factory Acts, *i.e.* a 68-hour week, and a working day which may not finish till 9 P.M. Maids seem to be unfortunate in many cases, since they are liable to have their "evening out" changed without notice and they are prevented from going to their club on the usual night.

When we consider the type of work and its effects on the use of leisure we are on debatable ground where much research has yet to be done. Certain trends may be observed, however, which are suggestive. It would seem to be a fact that whenever new machinery is introduced there is a tendency for girls to be absorbed rather than adults or boys. The general opinion seems to be that girls take more kindly than boys to the repetitive processes which are becoming increasingly common in industry. Now, are we right in assuming that work which involves repetitive processes is necessarily "soul-destroying"?

In the Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops for the year 1933, Dr Sybil Horner claims that women employed on repetitive processes illustrate their powers of adaptability; that they are able to strike "a nice balance between attention and detachment—which is, in effect, a prescription for the prevention of boredom." But it is also true that we do not find pride of craftsmanship in such work, although there is often quite a pride in belonging to a particular firm or in the working of a certain machine: an attitude which still counts for a good deal in a girl's working life.

Studies by the Industrial Health Research Board have thrown light on the psychology of work, the effects of monotony, and the incidence of boredom (see Reports 26, 30, 32, 51 and 63).

The automatic character of the work may leave her free to think of other things or to chat with her neighbour, though if the work is that of examining she must be mentally alert and give her close attention to the inspection. In any case, there is little opportunity for initiative, and it remains true of her as of the worker referred to in Dr Bakke's study that a great deal of her life is ordered by others and requires little thought on her part. Many overseers report the lack of any desire for promotion to a position of responsibility in the work-room, *e.g.* a large engineering firm found it difficult to persuade any girls to become charge hands. Unless some opportunity for creative activity is available outside her work, a habit of mind is being formed which ill prepares her to take responsibility in her adult life. Moreover, if her work leaves her free to chat with her fellow-worker or to day-dream, it is doubly important that opportunities should be given her for wider interests in her spare time. A report of a study by the Industrial Health Research Board on "Incentives in Repetitive Work" (amongst girls between 15 and 16 years) incidentally throws some light on this aspect of our problem (see Report No. 69, Section D, "Talking," p. 48):

"The workers employed in this experiment talked freely and a fairly complete record was made of the topics discussed. A representa-

tive sample taken from the first 12 weeks of the piece-rate period is given below :

Subject	Frequency
(1) The opposite sex	42
(2) Films and film stars	27
(3) Local gossip and scandal.	14
(4) Suicides, murders and accidents	10
(5) Local events	11
(6) Conditions of work (features disliked)	32
Conditions of work (features liked)	5
(7) Outside activities—	
Rambles	8
Dirt-track racing	12
Rugby football	2
Girl Guides	16
Swimming	5
Dancing	8
Gardening	6
Holidays	8
Home life	7
(8) Personal—	
Photographs	7
Clothes	12
Food	5
Money	9

72

33

“The results speak for themselves, but attention may be directed to the frequent references to features of the work which were disliked. Repetitive workers have plenty of time for thought, and it is not surprising that difficulties and annoyances should occupy a prominent place in their minds. The individual is constantly reminded of the unpleasant features of work, and the mind tends to dwell on these aspects of the industrial situation. As a result they become greatly exaggerated and form a subtle but developing background of discontent which reduces pleasure and interest in work.”

“It will also be noticed that the most popular subject of conversation connected with outside activities was the Girl Guide movement, presumably because several of the workers were members of a troop¹ organised by the firm. The interest in this movement evidently provided food for thought during work, and the results illustrate an important effect of social activities associated with factory life.”

Perhaps one of the reasons why so many girls prefer factory to domestic work may be found not only in the advantages of having evenings free, but also in the opportunities for social life, in the give and take of gossip, the constant activity and even the noise of factory life. The questionnaires on the type of recreation preferred by club girls in

¹ Company.

different occupations pointed to the following conclusions. Factory girls on the whole wanted an active evening, with games and gymnastics playing a prominent part. Many club leaders reported the tendency of these girls to shout, possibly because they were accustomed to talking above the noise of machinery or perhaps merely from excess of high spirits. On the other hand, domestic workers, particularly the one-maid-to-a-household group, wanted nothing so much as to sit by the fire and have a good chat, possibly knitting or sewing, while they talked. Their lives are often lonely, and it is the social aspects of the club which have the greatest appeal.

These are, however, generalisations which are often qualified in individual cases. What a girl chooses to do with her leisure depends on a multitude of factors, amongst which temperament plays a large part no matter what her employment may be.

The age of the girl, too, naturally affects her choice of recreation. The 14-year-old girl who has just left school is developing rapidly both physically and psychologically. She often finds the transition from a 5½-hour day to an 8 to 10-hour day somewhat exacting, apart from the nature of her employment. A large proportion of club leaders reported that their younger members were too tired to take part in any strenuous activities. In another way, too, the younger girl is sometimes handicapped. In some manufacturing trades it is customary to let the girls run about and do odd jobs, take parcels, carry messages, etc., until they are 15 or 16, when they are allowed to sit at the machine. This is sometimes the case in work which requires a certain amount of training and experience (*e.g.* woollen underwear manufacture). On the other hand, in unskilled work the 14 to 16-year-old workers often do a great deal of the running about, sometimes up and down stairs, often carrying quite heavy loads. It is no wonder that they are too exhausted to go on to evening school or even to go round to a club evening in the first months of such work. When they get more used to these demands the habit of attending a club or company evening has been broken, and the custom of dropping into a cinema has become an easy and attractive form of entertainment offering excitement and distraction with a minimum expenditure of effort.

Before leaving the question of the effect of industrial conditions on the general outlook of the young worker, and particularly on her use of leisure, it is significant for our study to notice the importance of the part played by status, *i.e.* social standing measured by the type of employment. It cuts across the whole structure of club work where an endeavour is made to break down social barriers. Within one factory there are many grades of wage-earners, from the office staff to the various process workers, and usually rigid distinctions are observed by the workers themselves. The office girls do not mix with the factory girls. Workers on one process consider themselves superior to those on another. Girls who do the rougher type of work, particularly if it is dirty work, are regarded as definitely inferior in social standing even

though their wages may be higher. Between groups of workers in different industries similar distinctions are observed. A girl doing typing is thought socially superior to the factory worker, who herself feels superior to the domestic worker; the girl in business and the girl in the better-class shop are considered to be distinctly above the other grades, etc. These differences are sometimes associated with differences in needs and choice of pastime. The business girl often plans her own recreation; she is sometimes attracted to educational classes in the club, whereas the factory girls and domestic workers often like to have things planned for them, and they are not always so ready to take responsibility. Some club leaders have felt that the needs and desires of the various groups differ so widely that it is not practicable to mix different groups of workers and to try to break down barriers which are so strong. Others have felt that such barriers are largely artificial, and that it is the purpose of a club to have a spirit of fellowship where girls of diverse occupations and temperaments should mix freely. Some "open" clubs, where girls of all types make up the total membership, have, in practice, certain groups composed of one type of worker. They may find that certain girls are in the majority on one night, *e.g.* domestic workers, partly because that would seem to be the customary "evening out" and partly because they have so much in common and are not at home in the activities of other groups. It would seem to be true that where a club can offer a variety of interests and good premises, then an all-round membership usually results. But where there is a small group meeting in one room the members naturally tend to be those with a common interest, often drawn from one or at most two occupational groups. If there is an underlying loyalty, *e.g.* membership of the same church, or the same political group, that may be a strong enough bond to break down barriers of social status.

The value of clubs in offering opportunities for healthy recreative activity and in training girls to use their own initiative and to take responsibility cannot be over-estimated when we consider the working lives of so many young people. In a well-established club under experienced leadership all these points are emphasised. Factory girls, business girls, and domestic workers, unemployed girls and others, take their share in the varied interests of the club, and the Club Members' Council proves a stimulating method of self-government and of great value in the character training for which the club stands.

3.—UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE PROBLEM OF LEISURE

Unemployment amongst girls and young women does not assume the dimensions of that amongst men, but there are patches of severe distress, *e.g.* in Lancashire, and certain towns show a surprisingly high proportion of juveniles out of work, *e.g.* Bristol. But girls and young women are vitally affected by the unemployment of their own men-folk and, as we have seen in the account of the North-East and South

Wales where there is no women's unemployment problem as such, there is acute distress in their households, and many are having to leave home and seek employment elsewhere.

The experiments with occupational centres and with clubs for unemployed women and girls have illustrated clearly two points. Women hate to be labelled "unemployed," and will often shun the most attractive centres if this distinction is made. Secondly, nearly all welfare centres report that older women and the wives of unemployed men are glad of the opportunities offered for recreation and for various creative activities, but girls and young women rarely attend regularly.

A scheme tried in Liverpool throws light on some aspects of the question. The experiment of providing Service Clubs for unemployed women and girls was undertaken by the Liverpool Union of Girls' Clubs at the request of the Liverpool Council of Social Service. "The average girl is not out of employment for any length of time and consequently does not regard herself as one of the unemployed. Therefore schemes labelled 'for the unemployed' do not appeal to her. In the later experiments the word was dropped and the Centres became Afternoon Social Clubs, any girls being admitted, whether living at home or definitely out of work." A short spell of unemployment gives rise to a feeling of being on holiday, and consequently to a demand for recreation and amusement rather than serious occupations. This is intensified by the fact that most of the club members come having done a certain amount of work at home. (It was proved useless to open the clubs at all on Fridays, for example, because all the girls were required at home to help with the weekly cleaning.) To sum up in the words of the Organiser of the Women's Service Clubs: "The moral seems to be that while there is need for educational classes such as the University Settlements have organised (*e.g.* for typists who are anxious to attend classes in shorthand and languages) there is a very active demand for social clubs, and this should not be treated as a specific problem but as an aspect of the much wider question of the training of women to use their leisure time. The fact that unemployment is still a transitory state in the lives of most of the women and girls emphasises the importance of treating any schemes for their benefit in the closest possible connection with such permanent organisations as the Girls' Club movement."

How far is the Girls' Club movement responding to these opportunities? The National Council of Girls' Clubs has always urged that special centres for unemployed girls are inadvisable, and that in a period of enforced leisure girls' clubs offer better opportunities for creative activities in a normal friendly atmosphere. In all the efforts made to provide facilities for unemployed girls, emphasis has been laid on the refusal to segregate employed and unemployed. Realising the value of preserving mental and physical fitness, the N.C.G.C. has pressed for the provision of activities on the lines of the "Keep-Fit" Classes in Sunderland (see description Part I. Sec. VII.), particularly in areas where there is severe unemployment. Under the auspices of the National Council of

Social Service, they have recently organised "Keep-Fit" Classes in Lancashire. Since the autumn of 1934, in nine towns of North and South Lancashire over two thousand women and girls have joined the "Keep-Fit" Classes. The rate of expansion depends entirely upon the number of efficient leaders who can be found locally to assist in the work. In some of these towns there are no girls' or women's clubs and the classes have been enthusiastically welcomed. Membership is open to any women or girls who wish to join, whether employed or unemployed, and classes are run in the afternoons and evenings. The subscription is 1d. or 2d. per class.

In some instances girls who attend the "Keep-Fit" Classes have asked for other activities, and the nucleus of an all-round club has been formed. While it is hoped that permanent centres run on club lines will be the ultimate result of the classes, care is taken not to check the present enthusiasm by too premature an introduction of wider activities.

In Lancashire, apart from the "Keep-Fit" movement, several Girls' Club Unions have focussed attention on plans providing facilities for unemployed girls and young women. In Liverpool it is maintained that the steady development of the Girls' Club movement offers training for the use of leisure in normal times which is invaluable when the enforced leisure of unemployment has to be faced. This belief largely inspired their Club Institute scheme (see Part I. Sec. VI.). "Whether for the present difficult times or whether looking ahead towards national emergence from the present economic depression, the Committee feel they have a sound policy towards which their work is being directed" (L.U.G.C. Report, 1932-33). The Union has sponsored the University Students' Scheme for Holidays for Unemployed Women, and was responsible to the National and Liverpool Councils of Social Service for the administration of their grants for the purpose. The Union's Hostel at Llan-gollen was used for two weeks by the Juvenile Employment Committee for a successful experimental holiday for unemployed girls attending their Junior Instruction Centres. The Union was also able to welcome to affiliation a Service Club for unemployed young women and the relations of men members. The principle of its work is set out in the report: "The Union especially welcomes this affiliation as carrying out their principle that any efforts for unemployed women and girls should be merged into, or developed out of, the ordinary club life of the city."

In Manchester, with the co-operation of the National Council of Women and the Women Citizens' Association, the Union formed the Fellowship and Service Club Committee and opened a club in some disused premises near the Employment Exchange. The club opens every day except Saturday, and an appetising midday meal is served for the sum of 4d.; classes are held weekly in country dancing, handwork, etc. There is now a membership of approximately 150.

In Girls' Clubs of every type up and down the country various efforts have been made to offer facilities to the unemployed. Organisers appointed by the Y.W.C.A. for this purpose are developing the work in

some 30 centres, including some of the coastal towns of Cumberland. There is great scope for the development of club work amongst unemployed women and girls in this county. The Society of Friends have been working on behalf of the men but, apart from the comprehensive series of Evening Classes run by the Education Authority, there appears to be very little for girls and women outside Whitehaven (where a club is now open every night in the week). Similarly, in South Wales efforts have been made through the South Wales Council of Social Service and the Society of Friends, Oxford University, and others (*e.g.* at Risca Bargoed, Brynmawr and Maes-y-haf), but chiefly on behalf of unemployed men. There has been no unemployment problem on a large scale for women and girls, since it is an area of heavy industries. As in other mining areas, girls have generally been at home in the days of prosperity. The peculiar configuration of South Wales, with its many valleys running roughly north to south, has made inter-communication difficult. Each valley has its own mental outlook: the social traditions of the Rhymney Valley are unlike those of the Rhondda, so that psychological problems as well as the physical features of the country are barriers against co-ordination.

Many of the girls of South Wales, and a large proportion in the Rhymney Valley, stay at home till they are 18 or 19 years of age (many of them are secondary school girls, see Part I. Sec. IX.). There are 600 school leavers annually in the Rhymney Valley in some 20 villages, but there are only 2 clubs.

In many of the villages it is exceedingly difficult to find premises. Sometimes a room is offered in the men's welfare centre. In one or two cases a boys' centre is willing to accommodate the girls on one night. Church halls and school-rooms occasionally have a spare room, but until recently the need for social centres for girls and women was not felt, and any available accommodation was needed for men's centres.

The club movement has made valiant efforts to overcome some of these difficulties. An organiser links up the clubs in the valleys in one Union (the South Wales Coalfields Union) and another union is formed in Cardiff and District. A camp, erected and equipped through the generosity of the President of the Unions, is open throughout the summer months, and relays of girls from each valley spend a week on a beautiful site by the sea. The girls themselves pay a nominal sum saved during the rest of the year. Some girls from South Wales with aid of grants also attended a training week organised at Harlech, where a course in physical training was taken by the P.T. organiser of the N.C.G.C. But the need to co-operate in the provision of creative leisure-time activities and recreational opportunities is great, and an organiser in each valley could do much to link up the existing efforts and explore the possibilities of development in the towns and villages where few or no facilities are available.

Other experiments are being made by individual clubs up and down the country. Many clubs reduce or remit the fees of their members if

they are unemployed. Others, anxious to preserve the spirit of independence which may so easily be sapped when a girl is out of work, have devised various methods whereby she can do necessary jobs within the club. One club has worked out an ingenious system of credits to be earned by unemployed girls, who make curtains or prepare costumes for the dramatics wardrobe and do the hundred and one other jobs which are always waiting to be done in an active club.

Clubs which have adequate premises and equipment have opened during the day-time to give opportunities to unemployed girls to keep up their skill in their work (*e.g.* typists come in for regular practice). A number of clubs, formerly open in the evenings only, have now thrown open their premises on certain afternoons of the week in order to give hospitality to unemployed girls. Some have organised "Keep-Fit" classes (*e.g.* Bristol) and sewing classes (Make and Mend). Some have kept in close touch with Junior Instruction Centres, inviting the girls to social evenings at the clubs. One Union has affiliated a Junior Instruction Centre club (Birkenhead), to which girls are still attached after they get employment. Most union secretaries keep in close touch with their local Employment Committees and many club leaders do a great deal of unofficial "after-care," even if after-care committees are not organised in their area. The N.C.G.C. holiday grants have been used by Club Unions all over the country to help give holidays to unemployed girls who could not otherwise have them.

But the question remains whether the Girls' Club movement could not offer far greater opportunities than at present to unemployed girls and young women. Many clubs report various efforts to raise money by concerts, whist drives, etc., for the local unemployed, but that they themselves have no unemployed girls. This is sometimes the case in an area where there is unemployment amongst girls, and it is well to consider whether the natural diffidence of unemployed girls in staying on in a club, or in joining for the first time, when the majority of members are employed, is sufficiently recognised and accepted as a challenge. Is there a tendency for a club membership to fall off when unemployment is severe (as is the case with Evening Institute membership)? The answer varies with individual clubs. In the most progressive clubs it is a stimulus to greater effort, and every opportunity is seized to make contacts which will bring unemployed girls into the sphere of activities associated with the club (see also Part I., section on Junior Instruction Centres and the Clubs). Comments on this problem by the Unemployment Secretary of the Y.W.C.A. bear out this point. Referring to the absence of unemployed girls in well-established youth organisations, she says: "The main reason seems to be that the girl who belongs to such a club and enjoys its fellowship and its opportunities is the type who is the last to lose employment and the first to gain it. This is true to experience everywhere and is perhaps the strongest argument for the need for persistence in developing club work that will attract and keep girls not already in similar organisations."

X. HOUSING AND LEISURE

WHEN we consider the rapid development of most of our industrial towns, in a material age when little or no thought was given to social amenities, we realise why much ugliness came to be tolerated. To-day we are alive to the importance of good housing and town planning in the life of the community. We are beginning to appreciate the effects of beautiful buildings or of dull and dreary streets on the character of a people. In a recent report on *New Aspects of the Problems of Hours of Work*, we find reference to some of the difficulties: "... that family life is at a disadvantage among the working class, since there is hardly room for the family to sit at home. It is, in particular, next to impossible for individuals to undertake serious reading, and the only cultural activities that can be undertaken in the home occur where all the family can share in the enjoyment. . . . In general the cultural use of leisure in the working-class home is difficult" (Report of the International Association for Social Progress). The provision of adequate housing accommodation would go far towards solving the problem of the opportunities for the use of leisure.

But while a housing campaign seeks to abolish slums, build new estates, and reduce overcrowding, it takes time to overcome the insensitiveness of generations: in many new housing estates it is often difficult to arouse a conviction of the need for social centres and open spaces for recreation. In some of our industrial towns the area is so built up that it is almost impossible to find sites for parks and playing fields, and it is always difficult to find suitable club premises.

Young people especially are affected by these conditions, and many are forced to seek opportunities for social intercourse outside their own homes. The cinemas and dance halls attract large numbers. Gaily decorated, with comfortable and inexpensive seats, the cinemas probably owe their popularity largely to the fact that they offer an attractive meeting place, often the only possible rendezvous, for young people in the locality. Many have a lounge and café attached. The uncritical attitude of the majority to the films may be accounted for partly by the fact that the pictures themselves are often only an incidental feature of the amenities of the cinema. For many, the "pictures" are merely "somewhere to go." The hoardings and advertisements bring the inducements forcibly to their notice, while they themselves can play an entirely passive rôle, with no demands upon their physical or mental energy. Commercial enterprise, backed by substantial funds, is able to advertise widely and to spend lavishly in making premises a bright and gay alternative to the drabness of many of the surrounding houses.

What has voluntary effort to offer? After the problem of Club Leadership, the most vexed question is that of premises. There are clubs all over the country doing gallant work in one small room with a

meeting one night a week. Many have no premises of their own, but meet in the house of their leader (*e.g.* many G.F.S. branches). A few clubs, like the Girls' Club in Bolton and the Oxford and St George's Club in East London, have been built and equipped specially for the purpose. The work of each club has extended from small beginnings, and a band of enthusiastic workers enlisted the support of public-spirited donors, and raised sufficient funds to build beautiful and spacious premises. But throughout the country a great many clubs are struggling along valiantly in premises which are decidedly unattractive and often inadequate for their purpose. This is particularly the case in the old parts of a town where housing conditions are especially bad and where, if anywhere, beauty is urgently needed. Sometimes, where residential districts have entirely changed their character, *e.g.* where a residential middle-class area has become a low-income-level working-class area, where several families live in houses built for one, it is possible to use one of these houses as a club to great advantage (*e.g.* the Club Institute Scheme in Liverpool, see Part I. Sec. VI.). In Gateshead, the Y.W.C.A. has turned a corner house into a light and cheerful centre, set in a town which is almost uniformly grey.

(*N.B.*—Also the Bensham Grove Educational Settlement, Gateshead.)

Sometimes an old shop or warehouse is converted, and if it is well decorated it can be made extraordinarily attractive in a dreary street. In Hebburn, on Tyneside, unemployed men have made marvellous efforts with an old power-house, and with the help of an architect they have produced a work of beauty.

In Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester, a Methodist Church, once the centre of a wealthy district, is now set in the midst of overcrowded tenements and noisy streets. It has responded to the needs of the neighbourhood, and structural alterations have converted part of the church (once possessing a famous gallery) into spacious club premises.

In other districts the Churches have responded to the changing needs of the neighbourhood, *e.g.* in Cardiff, an old Gospel Hall, once a well-attended Welsh Church but later losing its congregation to another Church in the locality, has been converted into a club-house. It supplies the needs of a very poor district and is now filled to capacity with enthusiastic boys and girls. The use of Church halls for mid-week activities has already been described. The difficulties of providing sufficient accommodation for the many and varied societies associated with the Church have been stressed. A further difficulty lies in the problem of finance. Many Churches are forced to let their halls at a high rent for the purpose of raising funds, when they would be glad to extend their voluntary work. This brings us to a difficulty felt by leaders of youth organisations in many parts of the country. It is almost impossible in many towns to find a hall suitable for large meetings at a fee which is within the capacity of a club. In some cases special concessions are made to organisations for the use of a public building

for an annual event, but rents are usually high, *e.g.* Reports from Club Unions specify from £14 to £20 for the hire of a large hall for their inter-club activities. A few find a benefactor who lends a hall entirely free. Many have the use of school halls for the purpose, but the difficulties of co-operation in inter-club activities are increased by the lack of suitable halls in many towns of England and Wales.

Perhaps the most pressing need is for the provision of social centres on the *new housing estates*. Every town which co-operated in the survey expressed strongly the need for club development in such districts. Some of these areas are without a Church or cinema. Many have no hall of any kind for a public meeting. A great many are almost entirely dormitory areas, the majority of workers having a journey to the city to their daily work. The effects on the people who live there cannot be measured in terms of material prosperity or physical fitness alone. The psychological effects are equally important, and the opportunities for social intercourse have a marked influence on the happiness or depression of the neighbourhood. The efforts to provide leisure-time opportunities in one of the largest new housing estates in the country, Becontree and Dagenham, have been described in detail (see *Becontree and Dagenham*, by Terence Young).

(*N.B.*—The Boys' and Girls' Club specially designed, p. 72.)

This survey brings out a point which is common to many new housing areas—the comparatively low average age of the population and the large number of children. In Dagenham, of a total population of nearly 118,000, half are under the age of 18, and the average age is as low as 23. These facts emphasise the need for the provision of recreational facilities for young people.

In many new housing areas neighbourhood groups have been formed. A Community Association, often initiated by the tenants, may, by voluntary labour, build a hall of its own, as in Newton Heath, Manchester, a housing area of about 950 houses. Newton Heath Guild of Neighbours has an open club for girls (with a membership of 95) which is affiliated to the Manchester, Salford and District Girls' Club Union. The ages range from 4 to 18 years and upwards, and since the hut built by the members consists of one room only, one night a week is all that can be allotted to them for their club. In spite of these limitations, a variety of activities, athletic, educational and social, are carried on, although the difficulties of holding classes in physical training and dramatics are great. The Watling Association (L.C.C. Estate) has a Community Centre, with a Youth Club attached. Its aim is, "To provide a friendly atmosphere in which adolescent boys and girls can meet together, and to build character by the mutual sharing of responsibility for the group's welfare." They have the free use of a hall, with a small adjoining room, and pay a small sum for light and heating. The hall is, however, constantly wanted for other purposes, much to the inconvenience of the club. There is no playground or playing field, but the members enjoy swimming and rambling. This club is mixed

for boys and girls between 14 and 16 years, who meet for a full club evening on one night a week and for dramatics on another evening. It affiliates to the J.O.C. and takes part in inter-club socials and competitions. Though only a small group at present, it has a variety of activities, including music, drama and hobbies with lectures and debates, although dancing, games and socials are perhaps the most popular. To take one more example, from Manchester, we find in Wythenshawe a new estate of about 4900 houses. It has no club, churches, or buildings which can be used for local gatherings. In one out of four centres (Rack House) a barn attached to an old farm-house has been lent by the Manchester Corporation and converted for use as a public room. Accommodation is badly needed in this area before the various sections can begin to hold functions to raise money for future activities.

One of the great difficulties on the New Estates is to combine the initiative and independence of the neighbourhood group with the need for experienced leadership and specialist teachers in the organisation of clubs for boys and girls. One worker on a new housing estate writes : " This is a new working class area with spirited individualistic residents. The club spirit is with difficulty kept alive. Such organisations as exist need steady financial backing to provide trained workers and teachers, to put forward projects of quality such as will attract the natural leaders." On another estate the Community Association, with great enthusiasm but little experience, started a club for young people. They were determined to keep their independence of spirit, but found the lack of trained helpers a great drawback in coping with a hall full of high-spirited children. Eventually a happy compromise was reached. The Association members invited a neighbouring organisation, with trained leaders and helpers, to co-operate by sending in some specialist teachers in handicrafts, etc. The results were satisfactory to both, since the initiative had come from the members, and the organisation which had been anxious to help but fearful of intruding was now welcomed.

But not all Housing Estates have Community Associations, and many of these have little or no youth activities. Of the thirteen Community Associations submitting reports to the New Estates Community Committee in March 1934, the following facts emerged concerning Youth Activities :

Youth Organisations were reported in 7 centres only. These comprised 7 Scout Troops (5 with Cubs) and 3 Girl Guide Companies (2 with Brownies)—there were no Rangers or Rovers—4 Boys' Clubs and 3 Girls' Clubs ; 1 Children's Circle and 1 Young Citizens' Club.

Four Associations had no Youth Organisation, but reported some juvenile activities, while two Associations had no Youth activities whatsoever, *i.e.* Eltham (Woolwich) and Manor (Sheffield). The latter has recently decided to start a club for juveniles with the leader provided by the Sheffield Council of Social Service, and the former has begun some work for boys. The Community Association at Perry Standing

(Birmingham) has the co-operation of a local branch of the Birmingham Settlement for its juvenile work. Two other Associations, Shirehampton, Avonmouth and Sea Mills (Bristol) and Wythenshawe (Manchester), reported activities for boys only, the former having Boys' Clubs and Scouts who took part in a Public Display.

An analysis of the activities reported shows that dramatics take highest place (reported in 4 centres), while needlework, folk-dancing and boxing are each reported twice. The following activities occur once only: first-aid classes, handicrafts and carpentry, step-dancing, eurythmics, boys' physical training and girls' physical training, sports and football. Norris Green (Liverpool) gave a handicrafts exhibition and a public display. It also has a play centre. Burnage (Manchester) possesses a Maypole and reported the ceremony of crowning the Rose Queen. The Watling Association (L.C.C.) has its own portable cinema for children.

THE PROBLEM OF SUNDAY

The inadequacy of clubs or halls for the needs of the neighbourhood is particularly evident on Sundays, when young people have most leisure time. Many seek distraction in parading the streets. This form of spare-time activity is so popular in a number of towns that certain high-roads are noted for their "processions," particularly where cinemas are closed. Sometimes these parades are the occasion for considerable horse-play and some rowdyism. The local museum or art gallery offers shelter on a cold or rainy day, and numbers of young people on a Sunday afternoon walk in orderly fashion through the galleries and occupy the seats available. The need for a meeting place, especially on a Sunday, has been recognised in some towns, and various efforts have been made to provide facilities. In Coventry, when the cinemas were closed pending the decision on the Lord's Day Observance Act, some of the local churches and various Youth Organisations combined to throw open their halls and to arrange for a musical evening after Church time. As a result, large numbers of girls and youths flocked in. When the cinemas reopened these efforts were discontinued. In Hull a large educational institution with a spacious hall has for years organised Sunday evening concerts. A rota of public-spirited men and women has been formed to arrange the evening's hospitality and to act as host and hostess. (Refreshments are provided.) Periodically the large shops and residential houses are circularised and invitations given to the shop assistants and domestic workers to attend. The Bolton Girls' Club also throws open its hall on Sunday evenings and organises a series of winter programmes. In each case a good speaker is invited to give a very short address. The great need would seem to be for a hall or lounge open in the afternoons, with opportunity for light refreshments. A great many young people in the large industrial towns work away from their homes. Domestic workers are often completely cut off from their friends and

there is nowhere for them to go when they are off duty on Sundays. Many clubs are realising this lack and are opening on Sundays (see Statistics, Part II. Sec. III.), but the majority have not adequate premises.

N.B.—The large number of one-night-a-week clubs. The special efforts made by the Wayfarers' and by some of the Y.W.C.A. centres and others have already been described. (See Part I. Secs. I. and II.)

The Sunday problem is one aspect only of the need for ensuring that social centres are available for the use of young people where overcrowding makes it impossible for them to meet their friends at home, or when they work away from their home town. It has been suggested in several parts of the country that the working girl needs a club of the kind familiar to the professional woman, where she can meet a friend, rest in a comfortable lounge provided with magazines and papers, and if she wishes to stay in town for a social event, have an opportunity to change.

Whether the club is of such a kind or whether it has organised activities, or is a combination of these two, it should be designed to be as attractive and beautiful as architecture and good building can make it. The appreciation of beauty so necessary to the full development of personality is often quenched for lack of opportunity in many of our industrial towns. The clubs, through handicrafts, music and other arts, are striving to train young people to appreciate the beautiful, yet many of them take it for granted that clubs can be successfully carried on in ugly and depressing club buildings, almost as dreary as the houses from which the members come. Others have shown what can be done to a drab interior with the expenditure of a small sum for decorations, cheerful curtains, and gay posters. Young people want a club to be proud of, if possible one they can call their own, where they will not be moved from pillar to post. "A club of one's own" may go far towards making up for the lack of a "room of one's own."

XI. CLUBS IN RELATION TO THE COMMUNITY

MR ALDOUS HUXLEY has reminded us that "the problem of leisure has two aspects: it is at once a problem in social organisation and a problem in individual psychology."

Youth organisations at their best are excellent training grounds in citizenship. They offer not only individual activities, developing mental and physical fitness, but opportunities for friendship which count for so much in the formation of character. It is the distinctive feature of club work that it can help young people at a formative and responsive period of their lives to adjust themselves to the many changes they are called upon to face; to integrate the development of body and of mind.

1.—INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES

(For detailed description see Part II. Sec. I.)

Health Activities.

Play takes a prominent part in this development, and educationalists are stressing the importance of games and recreational gymnastics in the all-round development of personality. The place of physical training in the health and well-being of the community is emphasised in many countries to-day, and continental countries in particular attach great importance to the organisation and training of youth.

In England physical culture has been accepted as a necessary training in fitness for boys. It is being increasingly recognised as equally important for girls.

The Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health and the Board of Education has drawn attention to the excess of sickness, which is largely preventable, among insured women, and to the too numerous cases of fatigue, weakness and lassitude among girls. He has also pointed to the greater incidence of tuberculosis among young women than men, together with greater defects in posture and carriage. (Speech at the Albert Hall N.C.G.C. Demonstrations, December 8, 1934, in support of physical culture for girls.)

The N.C.G.C., in its desire to raise the standard of physical training in clubs throughout the country, has set on foot training schemes which are designed to replace the old stiff methods of drilling by a modern system of recreational gymnastics, which combine grace of movement with fitness of body and alertness of mind.

Open-air games, rambles and other sports are popular among club members whenever playgrounds or playing fields are to be had; group holidays in camp or hostel all contribute to the fitness of mind and body of every member, besides strengthening the bonds of friendship and loyalty which make up the club spirit.

Clubs are also being urged to organise medical supervision in co-operation with the medical organisations already existing, thus forming a useful link between school, panel and hospital doctors; they seek to enlist the enthusiastic support of the club members and their parents in the desire to prevent rather than to cure illness.

Handicrafts and Other Activities.

The value of handicrafts and other constructive activities in clubs is not primarily in the attainment of skill, though that is admittedly important, but in training in judgment of values and in arousing an appreciation for good work. This applies equally to music and drama and other cultural activities, and the club library plays an important part to this end.

The positive contribution of club life in training young people to an appreciation of the good and dissatisfaction with the second-rate is a

sounder educational method than the negative policy which would suppress all that is undesirable whether in novel or film.

If clubs are able to help young people to discriminate between the true and the false and to make a wise choice among all the outside activities open to them, they will have done work of great value to the community at large. They will help to bridge the unnatural gap between education, recreation and entertainment which is arousing such controversy at the present time. The value of good judgment is strongly emphasised in Mr Hammond's recent book, *The Bleak Age*. To quote one passage: "It has often been said of the steam-engine that it came into the world before the world was ready for it. Future ages may make the same comment on the cinema and the radio. For, if they bring unprecedented opportunities for educating reason and feeling, they bring unprecedented opportunities for corrupting them. Of these inventions it is even truer than it was of the others, that their best use demands the intelligent co-operation of the entire community. In the long run the test of our civilisation will be its success in producing a society that can choose between the good use of these inventions and the bad."

Citizenship.

An increasing number of clubs are encouraging their members to form discussion groups to consider current events and other social questions. Though comparatively few clubs have lectures and debates, among those who do, "Citizenship" takes first place in the subjects chosen. In a great many clubs a practical training in self-government through the democratically elected members' committee or through group leaders, gives training in responsibility. It would be great gain to other clubs if they introduced or revived this practice and encouraged the girls to feel that the well-being of the whole club depended on the part played by each individual member.

The possibilities of a fuller development of members' responsibility are great. The enthusiasm which is aroused every year at the Members' Council Meeting and National Conference is infectious, and those who have attended go back to their own clubs with renewed vigour. The whole proceedings are organised and carried through by club members, and all meetings are chaired by club members. A report from the Chairman of the Members' Executive Committee will illustrate the organisation involved and the hopes for future development. "For the last four or five years the National Members' Council has organised its annual conference without any help from Headquarters. The programme has been drawn up by the Members' Executive Committee. The Chairman has acted as Conference Secretary and has been responsible for printing, publicity, bookings, accommodation, and the obtaining of speakers, chairmen of sessions and papers. At the Conference all sessions are chaired and papers are read by club members. The speakers are usually expert in particular subjects, but they are selected by the

Members' Council (see programmes in appendix for report *re* subjects dealt with at conference). At the Council meetings, the main business is in connection with clubs and the N.C.G.C. But other matters of general interest are considered as they arise, *e.g.* conditions in factories and shops; coupon trading (resolutions have been sent to N.C.G.C. Annual Council Meeting on these questions).

"There are great possibilities for the development of the National Members' Council if someone had sufficient time to give to it. At the last Conference the question of closer co-operation between local Members' Councils and the National Members' Council was discussed, and it was agreed nothing more could be undertaken at present by the Chairman—there was no one else among National Members' Council Members with knowledge (of N.C.G.C. and club work in general) and ability or time to do it. A resolution asking for the appointment of a 'Members' Organiser' was forwarded to the N.C.G.C." (Suggestions for such development will be found in Part II.)

2.—MIXED CLUBS

If girls are to play a worthy part in the life of the community it is important that they should have the opportunity of meeting their boy friends in a natural and healthy comradeship.

Many club members have little opportunity for taking friends to their own homes. Moreover, it is a convention in many parts of the country that a girl does not take a boy home until it is understood that they are to be engaged. The dance halls and other places of entertainment are the meeting ground of many young people. But if the friendship is to be based on something more than the sharing of pleasures and distractions it is important that other opportunities should be open to them. A secretary of a junior organisation which has all mixed groups made the important observation that the value of their work was in its basis of mutual understanding and fellowship when the girls shared their serious study and acts of service as well as their pleasures with the boys.

Another, the leader over a long period of an active mixed club in a poor area of an industrial town, was proud of the fact that a number of happy marriages had taken place between her members, who still took a keen interest in the club. A boys' club leader reported that he arranged frequent "sweetheart evenings" because he felt strongly the need for giving hospitality to his members' girl friends.

But not only do joint activities afford a greater opportunity for good comradeship; they allow of considerable extension of activities and interest. In dramatic work the choice of plays is much wider, and the great difficulty of trying to find good plays to be acted by girls only is overcome. A mixed choir, too, can undertake more ambitious work. Joint discussions and debates afford good training in giving consideration to other points of view.

A great many Girls' Clubs are aware of the need for joint activities but confine their efforts to a monthly social or dance. Many clubs, to their own regret, are unable to do even this much, through lack of adequate accommodation. But an increasingly large number are organising more joint activities for boys and girls and some mixed clubs are flourishing. (For a description of various efforts in different parts of the country see Part II. Sec. I. VII.)

It is significant that while the falling off in club membership occurs when the girls begin to be interested in boys, many groups which are springing up spontaneously all over the country are "mixed." The Youth Hostels' Association, and many other rambling and cycling societies, the League of Nations Youth Groups, the various junior political groups and practically all the Church Fellowships are mixed.

An analysis of 400 enquiries, of which 183 are for clubs, received by the Central Council for the Social Welfare of Girls and Women, London, reveals some interesting facts regarding the desire for mixed clubs :

Mixed Clubs	75
Social Clubs	57
Girls' Clubs	27
Sports' Clubs	24

It was found that the request to be put in touch with social clubs really meant mixed clubs. This makes a total of 132 out of 183 enquiries, *i.e.* more than 72 per cent.

Whether development proceeds in the direction of more mixed clubs or of more opportunities in girls' and boys' clubs for joint activities, it is essential that the club movement relate its organisation to the work of kindred movements and have vision to see its work in relation to the well-being of the community as a whole.

3.—CLUBS IN RELATION TO HOME, SCHOOL AND WORK

Many club leaders make a point of keeping in close touch with the local schools ; many leaders serve on the School Care Committees ; many clubs issue special invitations to all school leavers ; a great many lower their age of entry to $13\frac{1}{2}$ years in order to make young people familiar with club activities before they leave school and so help them over the difficult period of transition from school to working life. The co-operation of club leaders with Evening Institutes and the introduction of educational classes within the clubs have already been described (see Part I. Sec. VI.). Most club leaders in the larger clubs work in co-operation with the local Employment Exchange and serve on the Juvenile Employment Committee. They can do valuable work in putting their club members who need advice in touch with the employment officers. Many clubs are almost employment bureaux in themselves,

keeping in constant communication with the Exchanges and giving close attention to the conditions of work of their young members.

When the club leader is also able to visit her members at home, and establish friendly relations with the parents, it adds considerably to the value of her work. The club then becomes complementary to the home and not its rival, as is often feared. The importance of linking up club work with family life is stressed in many centres, and parents are frequently invited to club events and parents' associations have sometimes grown out of these efforts. A few centres are proud of the fact that they have representatives of the whole family, from the toddler in the nursery school to the grandmother in the discussion group.

A number of clubs report that the formation of a married women's section has made a great difference to the spirit of their work, and that a better understanding between parents and children was not the least important result. A club which is able to organise its work in sections according to age-groups has also the great advantage of giving its members opportunities for responsibility and service within the club. In one such club the juniors go as helpers to the nursery department; the seniors as helpers to the junior department, and so on, through all sections. What happens in smaller clubs when such opportunities are impossible?

4.—ADULT ORGANISATIONS IN RELATION TO CLUBS

Let us look at the question from the point of view of the adult groups. The reactions on club life and on the home are illustrated in a report received from West Kirby. A Committee of the Mothers' Union makes itself responsible for helping the girls' club, saying that they are glad to do whatever they can in recognition of all that their daughters receive in club life. "As a Mothers' Union Mother I find that not only does it strengthen the bond in the club world, but it makes for a further bond of interest in the home life. And in these days of youthful independence surely that is very much to the good."

In some towns the local branch of the National Council of Women or the Women Citizens' Association takes an active interest in the welfare of youth and keeps in touch with girls' clubs. Some groups make themselves responsible for organising clubs, *e.g.* the girls' club at Berkhamstead with a membership of 250, run by the National Council of Women. In Manchester the local Union of Girls' Clubs co-operated with the N.C.W. and the Women Citizens' Association in the "Fellowship and Service Club Committee" in opening a club which soon reached a membership of 150. (See Part I. Sec. IX.)

The Sorooptimists, a sister movement to the Rotarians, often support clubs financially and occasionally they take the responsibility for their maintenance, *e.g.* in Leeds they organise a club for maids and others who live more than ten miles out of town. They make the club

known by advertising and by working in close co-operation with the Employment Exchange. A leader is provided for one week-night meeting, and on Sundays Soroptimists take their turn in looking in between 4 and 9 P.M. It is interesting to note that their purpose is not so much to secure a permanent club membership as to provide a welcome meeting place for girls when they first come into town. Once the ice is broken and the girls make friends, they are free to spend their evenings in their own way, with no feeling of compunction or of disloyalty to the club if they leave.

The Toc H League of Women Helpers also do active service for clubs in several areas. The "job secretary" provides helpers for girls' clubs as in Ipswich, or the L.W.H. may make itself entirely responsible for a club as in Newcastle, where a house in a very poor district is equipped and run as a club. All over the country individual members are helping existing clubs.

The Townswomen's Guilds, true to their object "to encourage the education of women to enable them as citizens to make their best contribution towards the common good," are keenly interested in the welfare of girls and young women. Members of Guilds are already to be found as helpers in a few clubs, and others have made enquiries of the N.C.G.C. concerning club work. In one area active co-operation was given by a Townswomen's Guild in the present enquiry into recreational facilities for girls. The movement is still young, and more active co-operation may be looked for in the future.

The part played by the Women's Institute in rural areas has already been described (see Part I. Sec. IX.).

The Settlements, with their numerous and varied activities, provide an ideal training ground in responsibility, and the young people can pass through the various sections to the adult groups and thus get into touch with the whole social life of the neighbourhood. The Residential Settlements in particular offer this comprehensive training in citizenship. The Educational Settlements provide educational facilities together with social opportunities for all types of workers in their leisure time. Many of them give hospitality to local groups and committees with kindred aims, and, in some, definite encouragement is given to the formation on the premises of clubs for young people.

The various educational, religious and political bodies described earlier also offer opportunities to their young members to pass on from the junior to the senior associations, and many of them form links with other adult bodies.

Tenants' Associations and Community Associations also have great opportunities for organising youth activities, though in many cases leisure-time activities are subordinate to the primary aim of furthering the interests of the tenants as a whole. Where the social centre is active, young people can pass on from the juvenile clubs to membership of the adult association.

Married Members' Clubs.—Reference has already been made to

the formation of married women's sections of girls' clubs. Married members' clubs have been welcomed in several areas and have been shown to supply a real need, at the same time forming a valuable link with the girls' clubs.

But on the whole it would seem that co-operation between girls' clubs and adult organisations is sporadic and rare, considering the field open.

Many clubs are faced with the difficulty of deciding what to do with their older members who are no longer appropriately termed members of a "girls'" club and yet who need a social centre as much as, if not more than, the younger girls. If the premises are adequate a senior section may be formed, with its own committees and its own lounge. If the club is restricted for want of space a difficult position has to be faced, since the club will soon cease to attract young members and it will also lose in vitality. How many clubs take sufficient advantage of the opportunities of widening the interests of their senior members by introducing them to the work of adult organisations in the locality? How many adult organisations fail to enlist the support of members qualified to act as helpers in Junior Clubs? Surely there is vast scope for extension in this direction when closer co-operation with women's organisations would be for the mutual benefit of all.

5.—CO-OPERATION

A greater degree of co-operation between all who are working for the welfare of the community would add greatly to the worth of much social work in many towns of England and Wales. The achievements of active Juvenile Organisations Committees and of Club Unions have already been described. The results of co-operation, which is something more than a paper scheme, are seen in the well-being of the neighbourhood at large where there is an effective Council of Social Service. In many towns there is no attempt at co-ordination, and youth organisations keep themselves strictly to themselves, knowing nothing of other activities in their neighbourhood. In one town where social workers were doing splendid individual work but found themselves immersed in their own particular job to the exclusion of wider interests, it was resolved to call a meeting to discuss a possible way out. The outcome was the formation of an Association of Social Workers. They met once a month and in turn read a paper on their own work and the possibilities of closer co-operation with workers in other spheres. This exchange of views had immediate practical results and much overlapping was avoided; greater co-ordination resulted in more effective work for the youth of the town. Such an association does valuable work, too, in resolving the conflict of loyalties which harasses so many energetic workers. Birkenhead Union of Girls' Clubs has recently formed an Advisory Committee with a similar purpose of co-ordination.

Throughout the country the clubs are striving to foster this spirit and widen the outlook of their members by encouraging joint efforts with other organisations. Friendly visits are arranged; invitations are sent round for concerts and socials; demonstrations and competitions bring renewed interest to many clubs; some combine for special functions, *e.g.* a series of lectures or a conference on music, while many meet periodically in a joint Church Service. The Members' Council often takes over the responsibility for arranging inter-club visits, and in some Unions the Members' Council itself pays a series of visits to the clubs in the Union and does good work in stimulating enthusiasm in the smaller units.

6.—LEADERSHIP

The question of the relation of clubs to the community as a whole is closely linked with the problem of leadership. The questionnaires returned from all parts of the country gave as the greatest and most immediate need "Leaders and Helpers." There is little of the dictatorial method in modern club work. Self-government and members' responsibility are encouraged, but wise guidance and respected leadership are the basis of good work amongst young people. Many a club languishes for want of trained and experienced leaders.

Sometimes a trained leader is prevented from developing her work for want of helpers who are qualified in arts or crafts or physical training, even though they may not have qualities of leadership, and voluntary helpers can give great impetus to the work of youth organisations. Several club unions have secured a panel of helpers drawn from all sections of the community; that of Birmingham illustrates the possibilities of such a scheme:

Number on panel	Total, 379
Professional paid teachers (other than school teachers) .	91
Girls in posts giving their services at a club	80
Leisured women	56
Teachers (Elementary and Secondary School)	40
Students (University, School of Art, Physical Training) .	38
Professional women, giving their services	32
Members of Old Girls' Associations	16
Toc H League of Women Helpers	15
Welfare workers and Social workers	11

Of the 76 club leaders running clubs affiliated to the Birmingham Union of Girls' Clubs, 20 are voluntary helpers (leisured), 24 are voluntary workers (in posts), 11 are Church workers, 9 are Welfare Workers, 12 are trained Social Workers. (From Recreational Survey form sent by the Secretary, Birmingham Union of Girls' Clubs.)

(*N.B.*—The Training Schemes of the N.C.G.C. described in Part II. Sec. I. II.)

7.—CLUBS AND FINANCE

Many Old Girls' Associations of Schools support clubs, both financially and by providing helpers. The Union of Girls' Schools supports a Settlement in London where club work takes a prominent part. In many towns, *e.g.* Wallasey, the local High School makes itself responsible for an "open" girls' club.

While a few clubs have the steady financial support of a local committee, and others may have secured grants or legacies, over the country generally clubs are constantly struggling to raise money to keep going even though the leaders and helpers are voluntary workers. Club members contribute a penny or twopence a night, but the total raised by subscriptions is small, and one of the most onerous duties of the trained full-time leader is to organise money-raising efforts. She often has the unenviable task of appealing for funds towards payment of her own salary. Many voluntary leaders, already busy people, have to retire, mainly through the financial strain involved in organising efforts to raise small sums of money. A jumble sale or a concert in a poor district does not yield vast sums.

It would seem to be generally true that an appeal for girls' clubs does not rouse the enthusiasm associated with an appeal for boys' clubs. The old tradition dies hard, and it is often difficult to get the support of the public for recreational facilities for girls. It is also true that women, as a general rule, can only contribute shillings where men contribute guineas. This reacts on girls' club work in various ways. One of the consequences which needs most consideration is the low salary offered to the leader of a girls' club. It is almost uniformly below that of an elementary school teacher. Neither has the club leader the security or the possibility of superannuation attached to the school teacher's profession. Many Settlements can offer barely more than residence and a small honorarium to their club leaders. Many young women anxious to do social work take a course of training in social science and are attracted towards club leadership. With real gifts for this work, they often reluctantly turn aside to take up a more secure and better-paid post such as that of labour manager or hospital almoner. Many girls who in the past might have had leisure to devote to club work now take up professional work, and it is more and more difficult to draw upon leisured women.

It would add greatly to the value of club work if club leadership were looked upon as a profession open to the most gifted, since it demands women of personality and character as well as practical qualifications. A good salary would permit the choice of the best qualified women for this work. The possibility of attracting voluntary helpers is greatly increased when a well-run club is able to offer them training and experience.

Might this not be considered a social responsibility? Might it be possible to have closer co-operation with the Educational Services yet

still maintain the valuable features of voluntary service by payment of, or grants towards, the salary of a club leader to be chosen by the voluntary association yet satisfying the demands of the Education Authority as to qualifications (*cf.* teachers in non-provided schools)? The Care Committee work of the L.C.C. illustrates the happy combination of voluntary and professional workers: the Organiser's salary is paid and the buildings are provided by the statutory authority, and the voluntary workers are found and trained by the salaried Organiser. It also illustrates the development of the work from small beginnings by voluntary effort to its present extent when supported by the Statutory Authority.

8.—CLUBS AND PUBLICITY

Another question closely related to finance is that of publicity. It is astonishing to find how few people in a locality know anything of girls' clubs. It may be to some extent both cause and effect of the lack of public fervour and support. Apart from the financial consequences of the lack of publicity, it seriously curtails the usefulness of the clubs, since many would-be members are unable to get in touch with them and many apathetic young people have nothing to stimulate them to eagerness. The need for co-ordination amongst all bodies concerned with the welfare of young people has been stressed throughout this report. It would be invaluable in connection with this problem. If an attractive leaflet or poster illustrating the club facilities, as well as the opportunities offered by Evening Institutes in a locality, could be shown in all Libraries, Senior Schools, Swimming Baths, Employment Exchanges, factories and stores, etc. (and possibly in waiting-rooms of railway stations), all young people would have the opportunity of knowing the facilities available. Several Employment Exchanges and some factories and stores already do this. It would form a useful link between clubs and Junior Instruction Centres and could be made a means of real encouragement to the young person out of work (*cf.* Birkenhead).

Many clubs send occasional notices of outstanding events to the Press. How effective might be a regular club corner in the local paper. (Several Scout Associations do this.) It is more likely to command the respect of the editor if it is a Federation contribution. The effectiveness of such an effort is illustrated by the flourishing newspaper clubs described in Part I. Sec. V.

Several Unions have organised efforts which have the double purpose of raising funds and bringing the work of the clubs before the public. (See the account of the ingenious Competition and Festival organised by the Nottingham and Notts. Union of Girls' Clubs.)

The need for co-ordination and for greater publicity is illustrated by a letter sent to N.C.G.C. recently by a club member. [It should be noted that St Helen's has a club union affiliated to the N.C.G.C. Leeds has a small club union (not affiliated) and a number of other clubs, and

offers on the whole a fair choice of facilities (though by no means adequate to the needs)] :

" Could you please put me in touch with a Club Leader in Leeds. I have come from St Helen's, Lancs., to take domestic service here. I have no friends at all in Leeds and would welcome joining a club for my afternoon out. I was a member of Peter Street Institute, St Helen's, and am sadly missing the girls. I've made several enquiries since coming here but no one seems to know where there is such a place.—Thanking you, . . . etc."

9.—CONCLUSION

The community has a great responsibility towards its young members in making effective provision for leisure-time facilities. It is a problem of social organisation for our age. The development of industry, by shortening the hours of work, is bringing greater leisure to an increasingly large number of workers, and, by mechanisation, is making it vital that we should decide how that leisure is to be used ; at the same time manifold inventions are bringing greater facilities for recreation within the range of all sections of society. As Mr Hammond points out, " Since the provision of amusements is governed largely, though fortunately not wholly, by commercial motives, it is urgent that we organise the defence of those pleasures that serve a larger purpose." It is vital that youth should be guided towards a wise and discriminating choice. Shall we be wise in our generation, believing, with Ecclesiasticus, that " the wisdom of the scribe cometh by opportunity of leisure ; and he that hath little business shall become wise " ? ¹

¹ Greek—" He that is lessened in his business."

PART II

SECTION I.—NOTES ON N.C.G.C. ACTIVITIES

I. PHYSICAL TRAINING

(With acknowledgments to the Physical Training Organiser)

THE whole trend of recreational physical work amongst girls is rapidly changing. The more informal class, which stresses the recreational side, is replacing the old drill with its "held positions." Moreover, the word "drill" is definitely unpopular with girls of a certain type. The same girls will flock to a "Keep Fit," "Health," or "Slimming" class, although the actual work taken may be the same. One reason for the change in the attitude of the girls towards physical training is the great improvement in the standard and type of work taken in a large number of elementary schools. "Whereas in the past girls were content with a sometimes inferior type of work in the club, they now have known what good work means, and demand something better and certainly of a more recreational nature." The type of dress is also changing; the old-fashioned tunics, blouses and stockings are rapidly giving way to a more hygienic, colourful and sensible frock.

The greatest difficulty, as with other club work, is to find a sufficient number of qualified teachers to meet the already clamouring demands of progressive club leaders and to encourage other clubs to substitute modern methods for the old-fashioned drill classes.

The N.C.G.C. Physical Training Organisers have sought to meet these needs by various methods. Summer and Easter Training Schools were organised at which practical and theoretical sessions were held in nearly every branch of physical training suitable for clubs. Other training courses were held in London and in many provincial centres. It is interesting to note that these training courses included not only club leaders and helpers but trained gymnasts. The N.C.G.C. Physical Training Organiser was also invited to a P.T. Training College to take a course on recreational gymnastics suitable for clubs. In conjunction with the Ling Association a special course (held on one night a week, extending over a year) was organised in order to encourage girls leaving school to train as P.T. leaders of clubs. Demonstrations and demonstration lessons have been found most useful in presenting a new type of work to club leaders and members, and many have been given in a large number of centres throughout the country. This work culminated in a large demonstration given at the Albert Hall in December 1934,



MEMBERS OF THE HIGHWAY CLUB AT CAMP



N.C.G.C. "KEEP FIT" CLASS



A FOLK DANCING CLASS (A SWINDON GIRLS' CLUB)

when the enjoyment of the girls, the enthusiasm of the audience and the comments of experts proved the value of this work. It was not merely a demonstration of the importance of physical fitness to the health of girls and young women: it illustrated the variety in modern physical training and the fact that beauty and health were close associates. (The setting and production and the costumes were all beautiful.) It also gave definite proof of the value of such work in encouraging friendly co-operation. Clubs of every type united to make the display a successful and joyous adventure.

Competitions, displays and tests have been judged all over the country, and the work has shown most encouraging improvement both in type and standard.

The organisers have encouraged a high standard in dancing which is always popular in girls' clubs. Scandinavian dancing particularly, with its attractive and lively music and simple technique, is peculiarly suitable, but ball-room and other dancing offer opportunities of introducing a better style and sense of rhythm.

Athletics and games are increasingly popular amongst girls to-day, and in order to counteract any danger of strain and to encourage a healthy interest, a carefully graded syllabus of field events has been drawn up and leaflets on rounders and stool-ball have been published. The N.C.G.C. rounders and net-ball umpire tests have been found helpful in improving this side of the games and incidentally in developing a better spirit in matches.

One of the club leader's most difficult problems is to find qualified gymnasts to take physical training in the clubs. It would be ideal if trained gymnasts could take every class, but as the demand is greatly in excess of the supply, clubs must depend largely on unqualified helpers. But the N.C.G.C. organisers have shown what can be achieved by such workers under guidance (*e.g.* the majority of clubs taking part in the Albert Hall Demonstration were trained by unqualified voluntary workers). The training courses are specially devised to prepare voluntary workers to introduce the most modern methods into club physical training.

It is significant that the work done by the N.C.G.C. P.T. organisers is being increasingly recognised by Health and Education Authorities up and down the country.¹ They work in close co-operation with the Ling Association and the Playing Fields Association. The development of physical training in girls' clubs has reached a crucial stage, and it would be a great pity if the work had to be restricted at this point through lack of funds. With further support the contacts already made could be strengthened and the whole movement could go forward to the lasting benefit of the girls and young women of the country and so of the community at large.

¹ A recent development of considerable interest was the invitation given by the Bristol Education Committee to the N.C.G.C. Physical Training Organiser to organise a course of training in "Keep Fit" work for school teachers and club leaders.

II. THE N.C.G.C. TRAINING SCHEME

CLUB Unions have made various efforts to provide training courses in club leadership and in specific activities such as handicrafts, music, drama, etc. The N.C.G.C. has for some years arranged Whitsun and Summer courses of training in various aspects of club work, but the question of leadership was felt to be so vital to development along progressive lines that the Council has organised a special scheme of training. It will be valuable not only to voluntary workers who are working during the day time but to those who wish to take a full-time course of training for club leadership. Four grades have been distinguished according to the qualifications and experience of the applicants, and certificates are awarded as follows :

DIPLOMA AND CERTIFICATE IN CLUB LEADERSHIP

The Diploma.—The Diploma is awarded to candidates who hold a Social Science Certificate of a University, have obtained Certificate I. in Club Leadership and have shown themselves, after at least one year's experience in responsible work, to be exceptionally well qualified for the work of Club Leadership.

Certificate I.—Certificate I. is awarded to candidates who have taken eighteen months' full-time training in accordance with the syllabus drawn up by the National Council of Girls' Clubs.

Certificate II.—Certificate II. is awarded to candidates who have taken twelve months' full-time training in accordance with the syllabus.

Certificate III.—Certificate III. is awarded to candidates who have taken a course of non-residential training covering a period of at least eighteen months (but not more than three years) in accordance with the syllabus.

N.B.—This Certificate is intended for candidates who are engaged in other occupations for part of the day, and cannot, on that account, give their full time to training.

In view of the importance of the religious basis of club work, a candidate, in order to qualify for a complete Diploma or Certificate, must have followed a course of study and practice arranged in co-operation with the Training Committee by the religious body to which she belongs, to which she will be referred immediately on registration. This body will endorse the Diploma or Certificate to the effect that the candidate has shown herself to be suitable, from the religious point of view, for Club Leadership.

An incomplete Certificate may be granted to a candidate who omits this part of the training.

Where a candidate has received training for interdenominational work, her Certificate may be endorsed by the Training Committee to that effect.

In the case of a candidate with no denominational affiliation, her Certificate may be endorsed by the Training Committee to the effect

that her training has included religious study and teaching on an inter-denominational basis at a specified Training Centre.

The scheme is not intended to be a substitute for a University Social Science course, but must be regarded as supplementary to it, for the benefit of those who desire to specialise in club work.

Candidates who already possess special qualifications—*e.g.* as a Teacher, as a Health Visitor, or as a qualified Gymnast, or who are trained in Social Service or in Domestic Science, or who have adequate practical experience—may be exempted from portions of the training.

A certain number of residential centres in different parts of the country have been approved for training purposes by the Council and others will be approved as the need arrives.

Fees have been fixed at very low rates, and the total cost to each student for a full course, which includes registration, lectures and examination fees, is about 34s. The cost of residence in Settlements, etc., is additional, varying from £1 to 35s. per week. The training includes theoretical and practical work (see full particulars in N.C.G.C. pamphlet "Training in Club Leadership"). Although the scheme has only recently been launched it has already begun to operate in London, Liverpool, Birmingham and Manchester.

It is interesting to note that candidates who have already applied are representative of many types of club leaders and helpers. Some are qualified club leaders who wish to attend a refresher course and keep up to date or to take part of the course which was new to them. Others are younger candidates who wish to take up Club Leadership as a career. A few are Church workers who have been encouraged to attend by the Diocesan Secretary. Others are daily workers taking Certificate III., one or two of whom have had an elementary school training and have continued their education by evening work, subsequently acting as voluntary helpers in clubs.

The importance of training cannot be too greatly emphasised at this time, and the vicious circle which has discouraged the entry of the best qualified workers may be broken. Grants in aid of the Central Training Scheme with the possibility of offering bursaries especially to those who wish to take up residence in a Settlement, would put the development of club work on a sound basis and help to raise the status of the club leader. Salaries more fitting to the responsibility of the work and the high qualifications needed would be offered more readily to the trained and experienced leader. There are already signs of better prospects in this direction, and good posts have been open recently for which it was not easy to find applicants of sufficient merit.

III. THE CLUB MEDICAL SCHEME

IN so far as premises and playing fields allow, clubs are doing valuable work through recreational gymnastics and outdoor games in raising the standard of physical fitness amongst girls. Camp holidays are also

becoming more and more popular, giving the opportunity for an open-air holiday to many club girls who would not otherwise go away. A great many clubs also have some method of helping their girls who need convalescence after illness, and some advise their members concerning health insurance and membership of a Friendly Society. But these are often sporadic attempts, and the N.C.G.C. is encouraging clubs to consider a club medical scheme which will bring the existing health services within reach of all girls and encourage them to continue at more frequent intervals the regular medical examination which they have had while still at school. "It is well known that the aversion to medical treatment is at its highest during the adolescent years, when obedience to the parental orders is not so universal, and the common sense of the adult is not yet present in the club member. . . . It must be borne in mind, when evolving and applying the schemes, that the function of the Club Medical Service is not to take the place of, but is to help, those medical organisations already existing for the use of the young. Where these do not exist the club must urge their establishment wherever possible, and only in those cases where this is out of the question develop into a temporary substitute as best it can. The club must act as liaison officer between the School, Panel, and Hospital Doctors who are to treat its members, and if properly instigated and carried out, the Club Medical Service will be welcomed by these aforementioned medical men.

"Particular care must be taken to work with the approval and co-operation of the parents of the members, and to gain the enthusiastic support of the members themselves.

"Medical work in a girls' club can range from the universal use of a bottle of iodine, to the regular organised inspection of all members, followed by treatment, palliative, remedial, or preventative, either within the club or elsewhere as arranged.

"Between these two extremes lie many grades of medical service which can be adapted to the needs of each particular club, and are regulated by the facilities within reach."

CLUB MEDICAL SCHEME

1. *Working Details.*

Before attempting to allot schemes to different types of club, it is necessary to distinguish between the various parts of a complete Medical Scheme and to identify those which form the essential basis for satisfactory work as distinguished from those which are advisable but not indispensable to the satisfactory carrying out of the scheme.

The work falls into three main divisions: Preventative, Palliative, Remedial.

These may involve one or all of the following processes:

- (a) The routine examination of all members at stated intervals.
- (b) The arrangements for treatment found advisable after the routine examination.

- (c) Inviting co-operation of, reporting cases to, or receiving orders from, other medical services already interested in the member (*i.e.* School Medical Officer, Panel Doctor, Private Doctor, Hospital, Clinic, etc.).
- (d) Re-examination of cases having treatment, or being "under observation."
- (e) Explaining to parents and members themselves enough of the situation to help them assist carrying out the orders given by the club doctor or any of the services mentioned above. Encouraging parents to use existing medical facilities, and assisting them in doing so.
- (f) Explaining the correct way of applying dressings, etc., and dealing with the ordinary routine of domestic medicine in times of health.
- (g) Providing facilities for carrying out preventative treatment as advised by the doctor.
- (h) Providing facilities for the treatment, before and after working hours, of simple ailments, such as boils, styes, which require frequent dressings and are often neglected, owing to the amount of work-time lost through going to hospital, or inability to perform them adequately in the home.

[Paragraphs (a)–(e) (inclusive) form in themselves a scheme workable in a club which does not wish to give any form of treatment on its own premises.]

2. *The Doctor.*

Although often the work can be done entirely by voluntary effort, it may be found necessary to pay a fee to the doctor if the club is a large one and many inspections are necessary. It is sometimes hardly fair to ask a busy doctor in general practice to give up regular evenings indefinitely without remuneration. Doctors are always most generous in the matter of giving free advice to specific cases, and indeed of working for long periods in a voluntary capacity, but occasionally it is more satisfactory to pay a doctor in clubs requiring regular medical sessions at which the attendance of the doctor is necessary.

In small clubs it will probably be possible to arrange for the voluntary assistance of a doctor.

In large clubs, or when groups of small clubs run a joint Medical Scheme, the qualified M.O. will welcome the help of Medical Students as his assistants, but the examination and prescribing should be in the hands of the M.O. himself.

As the work increases, the help of Specialists will probably be sought from time to time. These consultations can usually be arranged free of charge or at a hospital. Sometimes a dentist or oculist is interested in the work and will give voluntary assistance.

In those cases where a salaried doctor is employed, the problem

is who is to pay the M.O.'s fees and on what basis they are to be regulated.

Whether—

- (1) According to the number of children examined, or
- (2) According to the number of sessions given, or
- (3) An annual fee regardless of numbers seen or sessions given.

If the members are made to pay a weekly sum which is handed to the doctor, the Medical Scheme becomes incomplete, because those children who cannot pay will receive no treatment. The leader will start by introducing an occasional free case, and these will so increase in number as to make the fees received quite out of proportion to the numbers of children examined.

It is therefore obviously the duty of the club to provide the M.O. whether out of their own funds or out of grants received for the purpose.

3. *Expenses incurred in Ideal Scheme.*

The probable expense will be :

Installation—

- (1) Fitting up room, furniture, instruments, etc.
- (2) Supplying stationery, files, index boxes, etc.

Running Expenses—

- (1) Doctor's fees when a regular voluntary Medical Officer is not available.
- (2) Postage for correspondence to parents, hospitals, etc.
- (3) Payments for occasional extra nourishment, convalescence, etc.
- (4) Cost of dressings and medicines, and occasional surgical appliances.

NOTE.—For full description of scheme, see pamphlets published by the N.C.G.C., "Club Medical Scheme," Part I. and Part II.

This scheme, which was only adopted by the Council in 1933, has made encouraging progress. A number of individual clubs in different parts of the country have taken it up, and in Stepney the Association of Clubs adopted it last year. Meetings were organised in different parts of the borough and the scheme was explained in detail. Three clubs, in addition to the Bernhard Baron Club, where the scheme was already in full working order, have since started medical inspections and two more are about to do so.

A visitor to one club was so much impressed with the soundness of the medical work that he offered to instal mercury vapour and radiant heat lamps, and to pay for a doctor to examine patients and for a nurse to give sun-ray treatment.

The great need at the moment is for the help of voluntary doctors who will give their services one night a week to those clubs that are only waiting for such help before starting inspections.

IV. CLUB LIBRARIES

(With acknowledgments to Miss Danielsen, Hon. Sec., N.C.G.C.)

"IN December the last grant for Girls' Club Libraries was received from the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, as the allocation of funds for this purpose is now exhausted. This is, of course, a subject of deep regret, because there can be no doubt of the value of the gift to the clubs which have benefited by it. The annual report shows that books have played an increasingly important part in club life. It is particularly pleasing to notice the number of new interests that have been called into life by their presence. Debates and discussions have been started, reading, study and dramatic circles have been formed, and in Guide companies they are used extensively in the preparation for their numerous tests—to mention only a few of many activities which the possession of books has stimulated.

"Another satisfactory feature of the reports is the efforts made by the clubs to fulfil their obligations by replenishing their libraries annually. In spite of the very difficult years through which clubs have passed owing to the great depression in trade, most of them have managed to make their ten per cent. replenishment, and some have even exceeded this amount. Now that better times have come it is to be hoped that every club library will be replenished adequately as this is indeed the only way to keep a library up to date and interesting to the keen readers. It would be deplorable if the libraries should lapse owing to the lack of this elementary precaution. Again, it cannot be too often insisted that the fundamental need of a library if it is to be a success is a good librarian who can give the members advice. The inexperienced reader who chooses a book because it has a gay cover or because it does not contain long paragraphs is not likely to develop into a keen and intelligent reader. She must have a lead.

"One of the aims of the Carnegie Trust has certainly been achieved, and that is to form a link between the Girls' Clubs and the Public Libraries. Judging from the annual reports, numbers of girls, having formed the reading habit, now borrow from the libraries, but it is clear that the need for guidance is even more necessary there than in the club library.

"It will be of interest to learn to what extent our clubs have benefited by the generosity of the Carnegie Trust during the seven years which have elapsed since the scheme was inaugurated. Altogether, grants to the value of £7926 were made for 288 libraries. In addition, two supplementary grants valued at £40 were made, and £100 was given to the Liverpool Union for a Reference Library.

"A few of the grants were either not claimed at all or not claimed in full owing to various difficulties, and a few libraries have had to be returned.

"Besides the clubs which received grants, there were many others

which sent enquiries (about fifty-eight during the last five years), but which were ineligible as they could not fulfil the conditions laid down."

It is hoped that it will be possible to renew the grant for club libraries and that club leaders will continue their efforts to encourage their members to read with discrimination. Closer links with public libraries might be made in many areas, and it is hoped that the club library will stimulate the love of reading which will lead young people to make better use of the public libraries. (See Part I. Sec. V.)

V. MUSIC, HOMECRAFT AND OTHER CLUB FACILITIES

MUSIC

MANY Unions are experimenting in musical activities with the possibility of giving training not only in appreciation but in the actual practice of music.

A book by Mrs R. L. Henriques on *The Approach to Club Music*, for the use of club workers with little experience in musical training, was published under the auspices of the N.C.G.C. and the N.A.B.C. (assisted by a Carnegie grant), and the author visited Unions in different parts of the country, giving lecture courses.

The St Helen's Union arranged a short course of lectures on "Bands," when Mrs Henriques had the audience performing in relays on small instruments.

Rochdale sent a representative to the Musical Conference in London, which resulted in a movement to encourage music throughout the clubs. The members of the choir undertook this work and, in their own words, "We started with a Musical Evening and Potato Pie Supper," and a gramophone was presented for hire by clubs at a small fee.

Liverpool, under the direction of Mr John Tobin, has worked out an interesting and comprehensive scheme which has been launched with enthusiasm. A full description sent in by the Club Union Secretary is given below (quoted with minor omissions).

REPORT ON L.U.G.C. MUSIC SCHEME

"The Executive Committee of the Union was dissatisfied with the growing unpopularity of music in the clubs, music in general appearing to be dying as a club activity. Choral test entries were few, though members enjoyed community singing arranged by the Union, but rehearsals were badly attended. Massed singing, which in the past had done good work, now failed to appeal.

"Several months were spent in investigating possibilities and in making enquiries as to the right person from whom help might be sought. The Committee was strongly advised to secure the services of a professional musician, and a musical director was chosen who was well

known (a) for his ability to handle people of all ages and types; (b) for his understanding of the educational application of music presentation and method; (c) as a social worker in music, being the Founder Director of the Liverpool Repertory Opera scheme for the people—the only scheme of its kind in this country, outside the Old Vic, which secured a grant from the Carnegie Trustees. He is Honorary Vice-President of the Oxford University Opera Club; (d) as a popular and technical lecturer to many Corporations and Education Authorities; (e) as a regular contributor to the leading musical journals.

“By reason of his special interest, he consented to set the Syllabus for a reduced fee and was prepared to take on the direction of music under eight points:

- (1) Setting of Syllabus and Draft Scheme 1 point.
- (2) Three lectures to Club Music Leaders 3 points.
- (3) Three rehearsals for Concert 3 points.
- (4) One “Event” 1 point.

“The enclosed Syllabus outlines the scheme, which is now in operation. The issue of a scheme in itself, or of a syllabus, however good, would have been practically useless without personal and constant direction. The scheme involved:

- (1) Securing the necessary fees for the Director.
- (2) Securing grants for club equipment (percussion band instruments, carol books and copies of words, gramophone records, etc.), though assistance was only given in the case of new work—not in the case of providing copies for choral tests, etc., which had always existed.
- (3) The provision of some payment for professional services of teachers in the clubs. The Union had previously made successful contacts with the Education Committee for classes in various activities and a few were well established. The Education Committee acceded to a request in all cases put forward for music teachers, though the request, for obvious reasons, was limited. The Musical Director's nominees were accepted by the Education Committee, and in the case of musicians receiving payment from the Education Committee for a class, the Musical Director induced them to take other classes voluntarily.

“The Scheme, at the time of writing, is naturally only in the process of development, as it was only launched in September 1934.

“The Carol Concert promises to be a real musical event. A choir of over three hundred voices has been selected for the performance of a number of very beautiful carols of all seasons. The girls are most enthusiastic about them.¹

“The percussion bands have ‘taken on,’ under the direction of the Musical Director's colleague, to a far greater extent than was hoped

¹ The Carol Concert was duly held and was most successful.

for. Any suggestion in the girls' minds that they were for children only was quickly dispelled, and probably the most successful class was that in an unemployed women's and girls' club—where the ages range from 18 to 35, many members of the class being married women bringing their babies with them. At the Carol Concert, a performance of the last movement of the Grieg Concerto in A Minor for two pianofortes will be accompanied by a percussion band of fifty players.

" *Lectures to Active and Potential Music Leaders.*—The attendance, while not large, showed a steady increase, and the Lectures aroused much enthusiasm and resulted in many musically 'dead' clubs requesting assistance so that they might participate in the Scheme.

" The direction of the Scheme has really been by personal contact between the Musical Director and his colleague and the clubs' teachers and leaders.

" *Piano Classes.*—Great difficulties stood in the way of this scheme, which, when tried out previously under other direction, had failed. Two experimental club piano classes were in every way successful. The girls who had no piano at home made as great or greater progress as those girls who had. Ten piano classes are now formed, or are in the process of formation. The scheme is explained in the attached Rules for Piano Classes. It was essential to the scheme that these should be rightly directed and one method adopted. Teachers (professional musicians) attend the experimental classes.

" *Percussion Bands.*—In the case of the percussion bands, the use of the French Time Names in dealing with time notation is essential to success, and these were dealt with in lectures. The girls who could not hitherto read a note of music were able to grasp notation in one or two lessons with great enjoyment.

" *Pipe Making and Pipe Playing.*—A number of clubs (see Appendix) are taking this up, and the music leaders of several clubs attend weekly Pipe Making and Pipe Playing classes, taken voluntarily by two experts in this work.

" An interesting sidelight was shown by one club leader, who reported that one of her girls whom she had failed to interest in any club activity developed an infatuation for her pipe—taking it with her on all occasions.

" *Community Singing.*—Community singing at general Union Events, conducted voluntarily by a school master and amateur musician, is continued as part of the Scheme. Mr Tobin's *Unison and Descant Song Book* (Piano edition, 2s.; Notation and Sol-fa edition, 6d.) was adopted. A copy of the small sixpenny edition, containing the vocal line in Old Notation and Tonic Sol-fa, is in the hands of each girl. They become familiar with notation and develop the sight-reading whilst learning to love the finest classical and national folk songs.

" *Conclusion.*—In general, no new scheme which the Union has launched has met so quickly with such a measure of success as that of the Musical Director; and, in spite of the natural hesitancy on the

Committee's part in taking up the scheme at such cost, it was agreed that the Union had never spent money to so great an advantage.

"The experience is, that when music is introduced under sound conditions, there is no difficulty in persuading the girls to attend. In an Unemployed Club with nursing mothers on the one end of the scale, to a City Institute with children of seven at the other end of the scale, the difficulty is not to persuade them to come in, but to keep the numbers down to a practical working figure.

"The whole success of the scheme depends on :

- (1) Having the services of a first-class professional musician of high musical standing, who is definitely interested in the musical education of the people and who has the ability to attract the services of other professional musicians voluntarily to the scheme.
- (2) Securing the necessary money to pay him.
- (3) Securing grants for equipment.
- (4) Co-operation with the Education Committee in regard to this."

(signed) JOSEPHINE DUCKWORTH,
General Secretary.

LIVERPOOL MUSIC SCHEME

APPENDIX

AN ANALYSIS OF GENERAL MUSICAL ACTIVITY

Made at the end of November 1934. Scheme launched September 1934.

	Number
Club Members active in Choral Work	480
" " " Percussion Band Playing	343
" " " Pipe Making and Playing	80
" " " Piano Classes	89
Clubs active in Music	23

(These are clubs whose detailed musical activities are known and reported to the Director of Music, whose leaders we have advised, and to whom we have supplied music teachers and pianists.)

Clubs active in Music with their own teachers	10
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(The above analysis of club members does not include these clubs.)

Teachers supplied	16
Pianists supplied	16
Classes in Singing and Pipe Playing under the Technical Education Scheme of the Liverpool Education Authority. The teachers are paid by the Education Committee	9
Classes as above under the Lancashire County Education Committee	1
Instruments for Percussion Band Playing supplied by Messrs Rushworth and Dreaper to the L.U.G.C. for the Clubs	300

Attractive pamphlets were circulated describing the scheme and giving details of each activity. The suggested rules for club piano classes sent to each leader in the Union are quoted, to give some indication of the method of organising such classes.

CLUB PIANO CLASSES

Suggested Rules

"1. Eight girls constitute a Class, and the charge of sixpence per girl per lesson is made. Where a club has not eight girls, groups will, where possible, be amalgamated, or central classes run.

2. In cases where the club has not a complete class, these rules will apply—the leader being responsible for her own girls.

3. The club leader is responsible for the collection of fees. Two shillings is payable in advance by (or for) each girl with her registration. This covers the sixpence for the first lesson and sixpence is payable weekly for each subsequent lesson except the last three of the final term. (A term covers 10—12 lessons.) The girl has thus always paid for three lessons in advance. The fee is payable whether the girl attends or not.

4. A girl will be deemed to have dropped out if absent for three consecutive classes (except in case of illness or other reason acceptable to the teacher), or fails to keep her payments up to date as in Rule 3.

5. The two shillings is paid over to the Union in advance, and the balance of the fees subsequently monthly. Thus the teacher will collect her fees from the Union.

6. Each class will need a set of eight keyboards. If the girl has not a piano at home, the club will lend the keyboard to her for practice. The keyboards remain the property of the club. Each girl will need a *Tutor*, price two shillings and sixpence. The leader may obtain those on account from Messrs Rushworth and Dreaper's at her convenience.

7. The teacher will send the leader a weekly record of the girls' attendances, so that the leader may use her influence as necessary.

8. In case of girls dropping out, classes will, if possible, be amalgamated.

9. Central Classes will be held at 61 Shaw Street or at Bluecoat Chambers."

Finally, the Union appeals for encouragement of this work. "If the valuable work begun this year is to be continued, special funds would be necessary for the purpose. Music has been a dying tradition in the clubs, and Mr Tobin's scheme provided for many new channels of musical development, whereas formerly, generally speaking, only singing was thought of. Money will be needed for the direction of the work (about £50 per annum) and for instruments and equipment for the clubs."

HANDICRAFTS AND HOMECRAFT

Handicrafts and Homecraft play an important part in club activities, and most leaders encourage their members to undertake a piece of work, whether it be dressmaking, knitting, embroidery, leatherwork, coloured raffia, stuffed toys, basket-making, smocking, cane-work, quilting, felt-work, glove-making, rug-making, bookbinding, metal-work, lino block-prints, stencilling, or weaving. While some clubs have



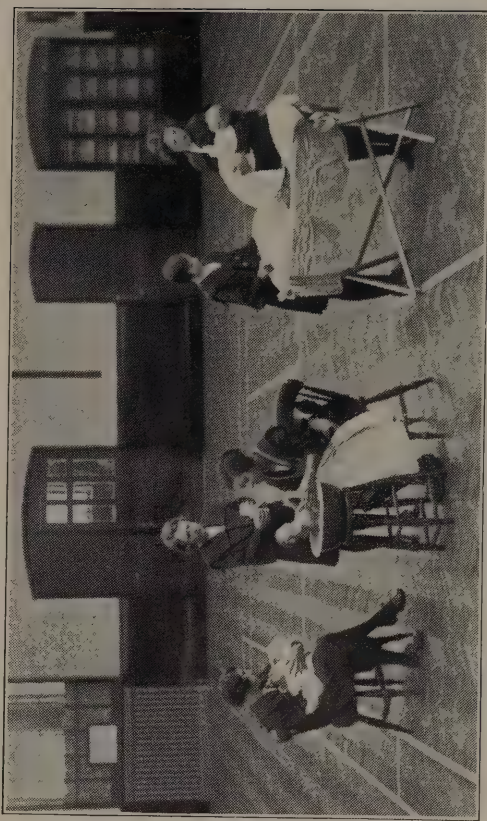
A CLUB HANDICRAFTS CLASS



A CLUB DRAMATIC GROUP (Y.W.C.A.)



A COOKERY CLASS (Y.W.C.A.)



HOME CRAFT (G.L.B.)

a qualified instructor and produce work of a high standard, many clubs seem to be content with knitting and such activities as paper-flower making, or bead-making on rather old-fashioned lines. Most Unions strive to encourage good work by organising demonstrations and competitions between clubs, while a series of illustrated articles on handicrafts was inserted in the members' magazine, *The Signpost*. The N.C.G.C. has urged the formation of a Central Handicrafts Board to encourage a high standard of work and to establish a panel of experienced instructors, and it has collaborated in drawing up a leaflet on "Handicrafts in Clubs," which will be of practical assistance to club leaders. Many clubs throughout the country report the difficulty of securing qualified instructors in handicrafts, *e.g.* one Union which used to have experts from a local training college to take handicrafts in the clubs found itself without help when the college was transferred to another district. The value of trained handicraft teachers was appreciated in Bristol, where the Union was able to send club leaders to a training course in handicrafts arranged by the Bristol Education Committee for its own teachers.

Bristol Union also took part in "demonstrations in dramatics and handicrafts suitable for clubs," organised by the J.O.C.

Lectures and demonstrations by experts at the Annual Meeting of the N.C.G.C., 1934, showed what interest could be aroused in home-craft, not only in actual crafts but in the whole study of the art of furnishing the home. It would be of great value to the encouragement of this important side of club work if an expert adviser were free (as in the Physical Training scheme) to arrange training courses and develop the work in all parts of the country, or if a fund were available from which Unions could draw if they presented a scheme for securing qualified local instructors.

DRAMA

The N.C.G.C. has been enthusiastic in the encouragement of drama, and various lecture courses and conferences have been arranged. In London a Drama Course was organised by the Junior Committee of the British Drama League in co-operation with various youth organisations, and a weekly meeting was arranged in an L.C.C. School.

A series of articles on "Choosing a Play," "Seeing a Play" and "Acting" were written for *The Signpost* by Miss Mary Kelly, of the British Drama League.

Dramatic festivals are organised in several Unions, and experienced judges are invited to give constructive criticism and advice. The choice of plays is limited not only by the royalties but by the fact that few good plays are written for girls only. Reference is made elsewhere to the wider opportunities open to mixed dramatic groups, and it is hoped that the movement towards joint activities will lead to development of drama in the clubs throughout the country. It is remarked by several experienced club leaders that amongst many of the high-

spirited manual workers there is at first a good deal of self-consciousness in acting which is emphasised by the fact that the non-acting members often tease the actors unmercifully.

It needs much patient effort by the club leader with a firm conviction of the value of drama as a club activity, to overcome this obstacle. One instance was given of a boy who had been known for years as "Death" because he had once taken the part in *Everyman*. When a really good producer can be persuaded to help the club players this attitude soon disappears, and he usually has the whole club taking some part, if not in acting, then in making the costumes or the scenery or in helping as stage carpenters and electricians. The variety of activities incident upon the production of a play is not the least among the advantages of arousing enthusiasm for drama amongst club members.

THE CLUB PROGRAMME

Whenever premises make it at all possible it is the aim of a club leader to offer an all-round, varied programme and to divide her members into age-groups, with different activities going on at different times for her juniors and seniors. Even the one-night-a-week club, meeting in one room, contrives where possible to have the juniors meeting earlier. The possibilities open to a club with a trained and salaried leader and good premises are illustrated in the following programme :

THE HIGHWAY GIRLS' CLUBS
PADDY'S GOOSE. WEEKLY PROGRAMME

AGE-GROUP	HOURS	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
18 upwards.	2.0 - 5.0	..	..	Club Closed	..	..	..	Netball Hockey
	4.0 - 6.0	Discussion Group.	..		..	..	..	..
	7.0 - 10.0	..	*Badminton *Ping-pong *Billiards		Cookery Drawing Class	Handicrafts	*Ping-pong *Billiards	*Social Club
	8.0 - 10.0	..	Dressmaking Embroidery		*Discussion Group (debates, etc.)	Keep Fit Class	*Cards *Choir *Library Medical	or *Dance.
	10.0 - 10.45	..	*Whist Drive *Dancing or *Community Singing *Library *Entertain- ments Comm.		*Committee 1st Wed- nesday in each month Library	Dramatics Wireless Library	*Dancing	..
Canteen open all the evening : every evening.								
	5.30- 8.30 7.15-10.0	.. ..	Sun-Ray Clinic ..	.. Dental Clinic	.. ..	Sun-Ray Clinic ..	At Ravensdale Club At Broad Street Club	

From Easter to August the Seniors use the week-end camp at Northwood alternate week-ends with the members of the Ravensdale Club—from Saturday afternoon till Sunday evening—and have special camps at Easter and Whitsun.

During August the canvas camp at the seaside is available to Senior members, and in addition, a week or a fortnight's holiday is arranged at a holiday house or abroad.

* All these activities are shared with the members of Memorial Men's Club. This club is for a similar age-group and is next door to Paddy's Goose. On the two "mixed" nights the doors are open between the buildings and both buildings are used by members of the two clubs.

(Programme received from Miss D. Dyer, Club Leader and Union Secretary.)

This club is fortunately placed in a very crowded area of East London next door to the Boys' Club. The intercommunication between the two clubs gives excellent facilities for mixed activities, and good comradeship and vitality are expressed in the *News Sheet* which is produced jointly.

A second programme received from the West Chelsea Girls' Club is as follows :

"This Club is open to girls of any age who are living and working in Chelsea or neighbourhood. Any girl who likes singing, dancing, acting and games will find them at the Club ; and classes are also held in cookery, painting, dancing and needlework. There is no membership fee, but girls can join the Club on paying their weekly sub."

WEEKLY PROGRAMME

MONDAY, 8 P.M.—Intermediates (14 to 17). Sub. 1d. per week. Painting, dancing, etc.

TUESDAY, 5.30 P.M.—Juniors (9 to 14). Sub. $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per week. Handwork and team games.

TUESDAY, 8 P.M.—Seniors (over 16). Sub. 1d. per night.

THURSDAY, 5.15 P.M.—Juniors. Dancing class.

THURSDAY, 8 P.M.—Intermediates. Sewing, singing and dancing.

FRIDAY, 5.30 P.M.—Babies (5 to 9). No payment. Play hour, singing and games.

FRIDAY, 8 P.M.—Seniors and Boys. Sub. 3d. per night. Social evening.

SATURDAY.—Outings, dances, etc., as arranged.

SUNDAY, 8 P.M.—Young People's Rendezvous (boys and girls over 14). Sub. 1d. Canteen, music, games, library.

Other facilities include bathroom for use of members, sewing machine for use of members, canteen and library. There is a resident leader (Miss D. J. Wilson).

The programme of a one-night-a-week Church Fellowship has already been described. (See Part I. Sec. IV.)

Other one-night-a-week clubs do their best to vary the programme and introduce some active exercise such as recreational gymnastics and games, some quiet individual work, *e.g.* handicrafts, and a group effort to close the evening such as community singing. Any effort to raise money, or any ambitious piece of work such as production of a small play, will take the whole of a series of evenings when general club activities must be set aside.

An interesting example of a combined effort to raise funds through a Festival which made the work of the Union known to a wide public was given by the Nottingham and Notts. Union of Girls' Clubs. They organised an ingenious competition which was introduced at the Members' Annual Conference in October 1933. During a social evening each club represented was given a silver aeroplane and each member a money-box. With great ceremony the aeroplanes were launched. The sequel is reported by a club member in *The Signpost* of April 1934 :

THE NOTTINGHAM AND NOTTS. UNION OF GIRLS' CLUBS

"The Nottingham and Notts. Girls' Clubs Festival, which took place on February 15th, at the Nottingham Albert Hall, was opened by Her Grace the Duchess of Rutland at 3 o'clock, the Lady Mayoress of Nottingham taking the chair. The Festival was organised on very different lines from past years, and was much more exciting. The stalls, which were decorated with lemons, were arranged all round the hall, and were covered with a wonderful show of handicrafts, and appetising displays of cakes, cooked meats and trifles, etc. The afternoon programme consisted of a concert with songs and violin solos, and continued until 4.15, when tea was served. The evening programme was given jointly by the clubs. Massed choirs, conducted by Mr Bernard Johnson, sang some inspiring tunes, which I think must have been chosen purposely for the club members. . . . These songs were thoroughly enjoyed by both listeners and singers. The singing was followed by massed country dancing by girls wearing paper hats and bonnets, and national and classical dancing in appropriate costumes, viz. Irish, Greek and Scandinavian. Other clubs demonstrated the new 'Keep Fit' rhythmical movements, as well as massed gymnastics in concentric circles. But the most thrilling moment of all was the return flight of the 'Silver Quest' aeroplanes. . . . The Silver Quest Fund was started with an anonymous donation of £50. £199 was raised by the clubs, and the Lord Mayor, who presided during the evening, gave £1, to make the grand total £250.

"This money is to be used for the extension of the Union's work, and especially for opening Clubs in new housing areas. We were all very honoured to have Miss Warren and Miss Worsfold, from Headquarters, with us. Miss Warren in her speech helped us to feel the value of belonging to a big movement. As a Club member, I would like to say how much I enjoyed the Festival."

VI. THE NATIONAL CLUB MEMBERS' COUNCIL

THE value of training girls to use initiative and to accept responsibility has been urged throughout the Report. Club Members' Committees, which take an active part in the government of the club, should be a good training ground for citizenship. Their co-operation with Members' Committees of other clubs in a Union and their representation on the National Members' Council bring a width of outlook which is of great value to the movement as a whole. It also brings new life and enthusiasm to the individual club. The Chairman of the Club Members' Council attends all the N.C.G.C. Executive Committee Meetings, and the N.M.C. sends representatives to the N.C.G.C. Annual Council Meeting. The Chairman of the N.M.C. is also Conference Secretary, and she makes all arrangements for the Annual Members' Conference. Some idea of the scope of the work is given in the Conference programme, quoted below :

NATIONAL CLUB MEMBERS' CONFERENCE, 1934

Held at DONINGTON HALL, CASTLE DONINGTON, NEAR DERBY

FRIDAY, May 25th to MONDAY, May 28th

SUBJECT: "The World Around Us"

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, May 25th :

7.30 P.M.—Supper.

8.30 P.M.—Indoor Games. Organiser : Miss O. V. Worsfold, N.C.G.C.
Physical Training Organiser. Members are requested to
bring rubber-soled shoes to wear at this session.

SATURDAY, May 26th :

8.30 A.M.—Breakfast.

9.20 A.M.—Prayers, led by a club member.

9.30 A.M.—Welcome to the Conference by the Lady Eleanor Keane,
House Mother.

9.45 A.M.—Roll call. (One delegate from each Union will be expected to
give a report on her Union not exceeding three minutes.
Membership, activities, etc.)

10.30 A.M.—"Why I Should Bother to Vote." Chair : A club member.
Speaker : Miss G. M. Johnson, Oxford.

1. 0 P.M.—Lunch. Afternoon free.

4. 0 P.M.—Tea.

4.45 P.M.—"A-Wandering." Chair : A club member. Speaker : Miss
O. V. Worsfold.

7. 0 P.M.—Supper.

8.15 P.M.—Social.

SUNDAY, May 27th :

9. 0 A.M.—Breakfast.

10. 0 A.M.—"Club Problems." Chair : A club member. Speaker : Miss
Lovitt (Nottingham Union of Girls' Clubs). This session
will be preceded by Group Discussions.

12 NOON.—"*The Signpost*." Speaker : Miss E. L. King, Editor of *The
Signpost*.

1. 0 P.M.—Lunch.

2.15 P.M.—United Service. Speaker : Miss M. Pilkington, President
Manchester Union of Girls' Clubs. Subject : "Art is
Worship of the Hands."

3.15 P.M.—National Members' Council Meeting.

4.15 P.M.—Tea.

5.15 P.M.—"The Ever Widening Circle"—Educational opportunities.
Chair : A club member. Speaker : Miss P. Walters,
Secretary, Hillcroft College.

7. 0 P.M.—Supper.

8. 0 P.M.—"'Tis the Work that Counts." Chair : A club member.
Speaker : The Lady Eleanor Keane (Chairman, N.C.G.C.)

9.45 P.M.—Prayers and Thanksgiving, conducted by a club member.

MONDAY, May 28th :

8.30 A.M.—Breakfast.

End of Conference.

N.B.—Papers will be read at all sessions by club members.

The Chairman of the National Members' Council was also asked to help in the arrangements for a joint camp for club members and students at Wytham Open-air Schools, near Oxford. On the invitation of 16 students from the Oxford Women's Colleges, 16 club members from London, Bristol and Risca enjoyed a week-end of sightseeing, walking, working and talking together.

The Chairman also attended a Conference at Birmingham and gave a talk to club members on the work of the N.C.G.C. She would have great opportunities for extending this valuable work if she were free to accept invitations to visit other Unions. The club members themselves feel that if they could have one of their members attached to the N.C.G.C. Headquarters' staff to develop the Club Members' Council work, it would be of great value to the movement generally. This opinion was endorsed by the National Council at the Annual Meeting in 1934. It is interesting to quote the words of the Club Members' Chairman on the urgency of the problem: "I have attended conferences for many years—as a club member and the last few years as Conference Organiser—and the conclusion I have arrived at is—that unless something more is done on the same lines to keep the interest and enthusiasm of the girls, the conferences are not of great value. Contacts need to be kept up, and visits to the various Unions (to members' meetings) should be made both before and after their annual gatherings. This, I believe, would mean that interest and enthusiasm would not only be retained by the people who have been to conferences, but would permeate the whole of the club movement. And the Members' Council will never be 'really alive' until some one can devote time to its development." (See also Part I. Sec. XI. 1.)

VII. MIXED CLUBS

INTERESTING experiments in introducing mixed activities are being tried in a number of clubs. In Dagenham, where a building was specially designed as a boys' and girls' club, a successful dramatic group has been formed, with the Old Boys and Senior Girls. There was an average attendance of thirty throughout the winter and five plays were performed (at the joint social hours held fortnightly on Sunday nights). One was a Nativity play, and a joint Carol Service was also arranged at Christmas.

The London Girls' Club Union reported that four mixed choirs competed in the choral singing festival. The West Central Jewish Club issues a comprehensive report which emphasises the value of mixed activities: "We specially advocate mixed activities (men and women), convinced of the need for establishing a meeting ground between Jewish Youth of both sexes—dances, whist drives, concerts, an operatic society, a dramatic society, tennis club and ramblers' club are the facilities

offered." This club, like several others, has boy members as "associates": cf. Hunslett Y.W.C.A. (Leeds). Clubs attached to Settlements usually have numerous mixed activities, *e.g.* the Princess Club (London) which arranged a Christmas Nativity Play (in which some of the most high-spirited members acted with great reverence and restraint).

A description has already been given of the Wayfarers' Clubs, the White Horse Club (G.F.S.) in London, and the Y.W.C.A. Centres in various parts of the country, which open their clubs to members and their boy friends. See also the work done by "Clubland" in Walworth.

There is no doubt of the fact that the older club members are seeking greater opportunities for mixed activities (see Part I. Sec. XI.). One of the chief difficulties in organising a greater interchange of hospitality between boys' and girls' clubs is the question of suitable premises. The lack of a spacious hall and adequate cloak-room accommodation are obstacles in the way for many progressive leaders who would be glad to arrange more mixed evenings.

The whole question of mixed clubs, as apart from the question of joint activities of boys' and girls' clubs, is one which needs great consideration. The Wayfarers have experimented in one way (see Part I. Sec. II.), providing much-needed opportunities for young people on Sundays. Their success would seem to depend largely on the energy and personality of the Centre Presidents. The Young People's Church Fellowships and the groups organised by political and semi-political bodies are experimenting in other ways, encouraging a greater degree of self-government. In the latter case a strong loyalty to a faith or to a political belief binds the members together. In a mixed club there is not necessarily any such cohesion, certainly not in the early stages of membership, and it needs a wise and experienced leader to guide the members to work together as a team and to take a pride in their club. Where men and women share the work of leadership, and helpers of both sexes show what can be achieved by co-operation, whether through joint committees or in arranging social evenings, in dramatics or other work, then a good spirit pervades the club, and girls and youths lose some of the self-consciousness which so often hampers early efforts towards mixed activities.

One of the questions which must be considered in the future development of mixed clubs is that of co-operation at Headquarters. Girls' Clubs (accepting girls of any age) can affiliate to the N.C.G.C. Boys' Clubs for those between 14 and 18 can affiliate to the N.A.B.C. A mixed club must affiliate its girls to the N.C.G.C. (and some have boys as "associates") and any of its boys between 14 and 18 to the N.A.B.C. It would seem to be advisable that a joint committee representing the boys' and girls' organisations should consider how best co-operation could be achieved.

VIII. CONCLUSION

A SUMMARY OF SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

THE development of recreational facilities for young people may be considered under two heads: (1) the strengthening of existing club work; (2) the opening of clubs in areas badly served.

Much more effective work could be done in many areas if there were closer co-ordination between the various social organisations, *e.g.* closer co-operation between Girls' Clubs and the Juvenile Organisations Committee, the Council of Social Service, Women's Guilds, etc. If a whole-time salaried Club Union secretary were free (as in a few towns already) to act as liaison officer between the public authorities and the voluntary organisation, she could do valuable work in this direction. She could encourage local effort by bringing the work of the clubs before the public and by arranging training courses in club leadership. She could secure a panel of teachers and helpers and explore the possibilities of further development. By organising demonstrations and competitions and by keeping in close touch with general development at headquarters, she could foster amongst club members and leaders the breadth of outlook and widening of interests which come from contact with others and from consciousness of membership of a larger whole.

Throughout the country there is urgent need for Club Leaders and Helpers. The *N.C.G.C. Training Scheme* should do much towards encouraging entry to club leadership as a profession. It offers valuable training and experience to the voluntary helper and gives an opportunity to the diffident to know how they can use their particular talents to the great advantage of the clubs they wish to serve. It is urgent that support should be given to this scheme so that it can be put on a sound financial basis. A salaried organiser and bursaries to selected candidates would do much towards solving the problem of securing the trained leaders so vital to club development.

While clubs should bear in mind that their special concern is the provision of a social and recreational centre while the Evening Institutes provide the educational centre, yet the rigid distinction between education and recreation is losing its force and the difference is becoming more a matter of emphasis. If clubs are to develop on sound lines they need expert instructors in such activities as physical training, music, handicrafts and homecraft, and drama.

The extension of *co-operation between clubs and the Education Authorities* would go far towards solving the problem of encouraging young people to make wise use of their leisure. A high standard of physical training in the clubs in many parts of the country has been set by the Physical Training Organisers attached to the N.C.G.C. Headquarters. Unless they can consolidate their work and follow up what has already been done much of the initial effort will be wasted. It is

vital at this stage of development that the scheme should be supported and, if possible, extended to include other areas as yet untouched.

It would be valuable if such expert Advisers in Handicrafts, Music and Drama could be at the service of the clubs. A grant towards a Central Fund from which local Unions could draw for an authoritative scheme of development or in aid of the salaries of local experts would be of great value in encouraging a good standard of work in these activities which are of such importance in the clubs.

The value of Club Libraries has been proved in a great many centres, and a renewal of the grants would be welcomed, both in stimulating clubs where a library already exists to keep up to standard and in helping other clubs to start a library with a good nucleus of books.

Camp Holidays are a happy feature of club work, and it is to be hoped that development will be possible in the future. Grants towards holidays, both by permitting the purchase of camp sites and in giving help to poor members towards the expenses of club holidays, have been much appreciated in the past, and an extension of this provision would be valuable.

With regard to the expansion of club work in areas where there are few or no youth organisations, a strong case has been made for the need for open clubs. While some of the National Societies provide such clubs, it is felt that their valuable efforts should be supplemented by open "unattached" clubs to serve those girls not brought under their influence. There is an urgent need for greater opportunities for mixed activities (especially for the over eighteens), whether by the establishment of mixed clubs or by the organisation of more joint activities between boys' and girls' clubs. In newly developed housing estates, particularly where there is no social centre, the establishment of such open clubs is vital to the well-being of the young people.

The distressed areas have a special claim to encouragement, and there is a great need in many towns of the North-East, the North-West and South Wales, where no social centre exists.

But it is not only in the distressed areas that there is the need for such centres. Certain industrial towns in process of rapid development have not felt the need for offering "fuller opportunities for an enlightened use of leisure." Except for the Churches and the Evening Institutes, which appeal only to a minority, commercial enterprise has been largely left to take the field. Yet the needs of young people in these more prosperous towns are none the less great because they pass unrecognised, and much pioneer work will be necessary to arouse a due sense of public responsibility.

Perhaps in this connection the needs of a general group of workers could be urged. Maids in residential areas and in hotels and boarding-houses are often strangers to the districts in which they work. Many come now from the "special" areas. Their needs are often somewhat different from those of the industrial worker. A club with a friendly, home-like atmosphere, where the girl can drop in when she is off duty,

has in some places already proved a great boon, but such clubs are, unfortunately, rare. The club, which is open on Sunday afternoon and evening, would also be of great value to lonely girls, especially if there is an opportunity for mixed activities.

Both in the older parts of a town and in newly developed areas the question of finding suitable club premises is always prominent. The difficulties under which many clubs are working have been described. A club can do much to encourage an appreciation of beauty if its own premises are beautiful and well equipped. A development scheme which included a community centre on generous lines would be of lasting benefit to boys and girls. A grant to help existing clubs to adapt their premises and to furnish and equip them attractively would do much to destroy the forbidding dreariness of so many clubs and to fit them to take their proper place as social and recreational centres.

The development of club work throughout the country would be considerably strengthened by the appointment of Field Organisers to direct expansion in certain regional areas. They could explore the possibilities of co-ordination and expansion over a wider area and enlist the support of voluntary workers and public authorities for the development of leisure-time facilities for young people.

The appointment of a Permanent Club Members' Secretary who would be free to follow up the good work done by the club members' Council in encouraging self-government and a readiness to take responsibility would be most valuable at this stage of club development when the members themselves are anxious to support such a scheme.

Finally there is great need for strengthening the personnel at Headquarters, particularly to direct the rapid development now taking place. The difficulty of securing generous public support for the development of girls' clubs already noted in the discussion on club finance, is particularly apparent at Headquarters, where a great volume of work is undertaken in cramped accommodation and where there is the constant strain of financial anxiety in regard to administration.

SECTION II.—SUMMARY OF FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN SELECTED AREAS

Summary of information received from the local investigator, supplemented by statistics from 1931 Census Reports and other Government Publications, by statistics supplied by Directors of Education and by various Youth Organisations.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATIONS IN SELECTED AREAS

THE following section is a summary in note form of Reports sent in by local investigators. The description of the facilities and needs is, as a rule, quoted verbatim. On the whole the general position in the area is considered without detailed reference to the work of individual clubs or societies, but certain towns are considered in greater detail (*e.g.* London) when a special enquiry was asked for.

Information not reproduced here concerning other towns has provided interesting material for the general survey in Part I. Many areas have sent in valuable registers of Youth Organisations with a general account of the position, *e.g.* Chelmsford (J.E.B.) and the Kent Education Committee in co-operation with the Kent Community Council. These have all made a valuable contribution to the N.C.G.C. enquiry for the purposes both of registration and of future development.

It should be noted that statistics concerning membership of Youth Organisations are approximate. While every effort has been made to get accurate and comparable returns, it was not always possible to ensure that exactly the same area was covered by each organisation, *e.g.* the Girl Guides' returns are made for Counties and the G.F.S. returns are made for Dioceses. In the latter case only those clubs whose leaders had addresses in the selected town could be included, and membership is exclusive of candidates (who number about one-third of the total). The latest available returns have been used, in some cases for the year 1933-34, but generally for the year 1934-35.

BIRKENHEAD

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total population, 147,946 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	58,760
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	19,212
Do. Unoccupied	39,548

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	7,920
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants)	3,766
Clerks and draughtsmen, typists	2,278
Professional workers	1,472

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	846	563	725	884	3,018
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	388	233	231	106	958
3. Occupied	438	724	2,071	3,178	6,411
4. Out of work (included in 3)	875				875
5. Total population	1,284	1,287	2,796	4,062	9,429

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	686	450	407	143	1,686
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	473	344	278	87	1,182
3. Occupied	638	1,007	2,329	3,715	7,689
4. Out of work (included in 3)	1,607				1,607
5. Total population	1,324	1,457	2,736	3,858	9,375

Many Birkenhead girls (particularly shop assistants) go across to Liverpool to work. There is little unemployment amongst women, although there is much distress in their homes through unemployment of men. Unemployment amongst shop girls and amongst those who were employed in gut works is great. Local tapestry works employ skilled hand-workers, while Port Sunlight Soap Works and the nut-cracking factory give employment to others.

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	4	86
2. Y.W.C.A.	1	298
3. Girl Guides	{ R. 17 G. 33 B. 27	{ R. 219 G. 756 B. 577
4. C.A.W.G.	1	No returns
5. G.L.B.	1	24
6. Clubs affiliated to the Union (including 4 units of organisations 1-5)	18	966

Students admitted to Evening Institutes (1933-34)

Ages	Boys	Girls
14—15	401	434
15—16	203	166
16—17	221	107
17—18	229	101
18—21	496	199
Total, 14—21	1,550	1,007
Over 21	202	476
Total, all ages	1,752	1,483

FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN BIRKENHEAD

Local Investigator.—Mrs E. M. McCartney, 7 Cecil Road, Prenton, Birkenhead.

Co-operation.—Birkenhead Union is active in its efforts to arrange inter-club activities while its officers work in close touch with the J.O.C. and other bodies.

Premises.—These are on the whole adequate. (School halls for competitions, etc.)

Playing Fields.—The accommodation for girls is very poor. The one "open" girls' club in the district bought a recreation ground with a legacy (which was less than expected, owing to litigation over the will, and so involved the club in a debt of over £200, which is a great drag on its resources), and the club lends the ground to the Union for sports and tournaments. This is totally inadequate for the needs. The Boys' Club and the Scouts each have their own large and well-equipped playing fields.

Leaders.—These are mostly drawn from Church members, with a few from amongst teachers and leisured women. There is a very poor response from Old Girls' Societies of schools. Another source of supply is that of old club members who are trained in the classes organised by the Union.

Publicity.—Much more is needed.

Unemployed.—One club is open for unemployed members, and a club is run in connection with the Junior Instruction Centre.

Needs.—There is need for extension of existing clubs which are hampered by reason of lack of funds, suitable premises, and scarcity of helpers. There is also need for more "open" clubs (one is wanted in each corner of the town instead of in one only). Luncheon clubs and holiday homes would be welcome. The great need is for leaders and helpers.

BIRMINGHAM

Statistics from Census of Occupation (published 1934)

Total Population, 1,002,413 (1931).

Population of Females 14 years and over	411,891
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	173,511
Do. Unoccupied	238,380

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	36,043
Metal workers (not precious metals)	26,268
Clerks, typists, etc.	25,757
Commerce, finance (including shop assistants)	16,826
Warehouse : packers, etc.	11,229
Makers of textile goods	10,814
Others	9,239
(Unskilled)	(7,852)
Professional workers	8,550
Painters and decorators (including japanners, enamellers and French polishers)	4,508
Workers in precious metals	4,457
Paper, cardboard, bookbinders, etc.	2,891
Electrical apparatus makers, etc.	2,824
Workers in rubber, bone, etc.	2,572
Foods, drinks, tobacco	2,087
Transport and communications	2,044

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	3,909	1,667	1,966	2,783	10,325
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	2,819	1,046	881	465	5,211
3. Occupied	4,217	6,477	17,217	25,712	53,623
4. Out of work (included in 3)			3,236		3,236
5. Total population	8,126	8,144	19,183	28,495	63,948

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	3,707	1,498	1,391	829	7,425
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	3,007	1,241	1,052	504	5,804
3. Occupied	4,261	6,476	16,691	24,864	52,292
4. Out of work (included in 3)			4,720		4,720
5. Total population	7,968	7,974	18,082	25,693	59,717

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	13.	486+
2. G.L.B.	43	1,763
3. Y.W.C.A.	10	1,393
4. Girl Guides	{ R. 108 G. 232 B. 201	{ R. 1,212 G. 4,532 B. 3,099
5. C.A.W.G.	7	No returns
6. Clubs affiliated to the Union (including 16 units of organisations 1-5)	76+1*	3,710 675*

* Associate members.

SUMMARY OF FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN BIRMINGHAM

Local Investigator.—Miss Jephcott, 318 Summer Lane, Birmingham.

Co-operation.—This is strong within the Union.

Premises.—Most of the clubs are small and meet in very inadequate premises. There is need for large club premises with full-time workers in the centre of the city. Practically no free rooms are available. A big hall, good for display purposes (it seats 1000), is available at a charge to the Club Union of £14 per evening. The Girls' Grammar School hall and gymnasium is available for gymnastic competitions at a charge of from 12s. 6d. to 15s. per room.

Playing Fields.—School playgrounds for netball are available at low charges and also pitches in certain parks (on grass). There are a limited number of hockey pitches in the parks which are expensive. Most of the firms with social clubs for girls have their own recreation grounds. It is difficult to get *central* grounds for games.

Leaders.—See Panel of helpers and teachers quoted in full in Part I. Sec. XI. 6 of the Report.

Training.—Occasional short training courses in general work are arranged and occasional courses in physical training (all such courses are arranged by the Union); three courses were held at the Birmingham Settlement at the request of the Union.

Publicity.—This is maintained by regular press publicity (weekly article in the local evening paper on girls' club news); occasional articles in the local press on the Union, Camp House, etc.; occasional wireless appeals; "bring and buy" sales; special appeals to local trusts for special purposes (*i.e.* for Camp House, salary of physical training organiser and club equipment); and special appeals to local firms for specific purposes (generally for gifts in kind).

Unemployed.—Unemployment among girls (and women in a less degree) is very small. Twelve clubs for the wives of unemployed men and other women over 18 are run (once a week) by the Birmingham Board for Occupational Work. The total membership is over 500. One club for girls is open daily and at night throughout the week with a full-time club leader (run by the Birmingham Board for Occupational Work); this club is not confined to unemployed girls.

Needs for Further Development.—About 50 per cent. of the clubs affiliated to the B.U.G.C. are within a mile radius of the city centre. There are few clubs in residential districts. A small proportion of the clubs are in densely populated areas north-east of the city, *i.e.* Smethwick, West Bromwich, Oldbury, Tipton. In Smethwick the Midland Divisional Secretary of the Y.W.C.A. reports: "A really good piece of work can be done if we had our own hut. It has been proved that there is a great need of a club open on Sunday and in dinner-hours during the week. A good central building would help to make co-ordination possible in this area."

New Housing Estates.—Clubs are urgently needed on various new housing estates in outlying parts of the city. On the King's Standing estate (4000 new houses) there is pressing need for expansion of club work. The Birmingham Settlement extension work at King's Standing is seriously hampered by lack of accommodation, and additional paid, trained club leaders are urgently needed on the housing estates. In Acocks Green, where a Y.W.C.A. club meets in the school hall, "a good hut with possibly a full-time worker" is asked for. On the Perry Common Estate there is great room for development, and a club open every night of the week could be used to full advantage.

Needs of Special Groups.—More senior clubs are wanted with "mixed" activities. A great proportion of leaders give as their reason for falling off in club membership, "Girl leaves when she begins courting," "No sex interest in club," "Girls leave as soon as they 'get a boy.'" One leader's comment runs, "Only the girl who can't get a young man comes to the club."

Suggestions:

1. That more clubs shall provide opportunities for girls and boys to work together at club activities (*e.g.* dramatic classes, handwork (for junior clubs), swimming classes, hiking, summer club holidays, lectures, music, etc.).

2. That members should be encouraged to meet for ordinary club activities, *not only* for socials and dances.

3. More clubs of the "drop in" type wanted, *i.e.* where opportunities are given to read papers, talk, play table games, etc., in addition to club classes (on somewhat similar lines to a University student's club).

4. More co-operation with Local Education Authorities is desirable, *e.g.* attendance at a recognised club class to count as an evening school attendance.

Club Leaders.—The most pressing need is an adequate supply of trained helpers, both in the centre of the city and on the new housing estates. Clubs are continually breaking up through lack of good leaders. There is urgent need for trained club workers both paid and voluntary in Birmingham; additional financial support is necessary if the existing facilities for training are to be used to the best advantage."

BRADFORD

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total population, 298,041

Population of Females 14 years and over.	132,933
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	60,108
Do. Unoccupied	72,825

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Textile workers	29,140
Personal service	9,690
Commerce, finance, insurance (excluding clerks, including shop assistants)	4,609
Clerks and draughtsmen, typists	4,353
Other workers (unskilled 2,469, etc.)	3,174
Makers of textile goods	3,044
Professional workers	2,272

Notes on Employment of Women and Girls.—Although Bradford is a one industry town, yet there are a variety of processes in woollen manufacture—spinning, doffing, etc.—and there is no unemployment problem amongst girls. In fact a number of girls have been brought in from Tyneside (mostly as domestic servants, although some sought work in the mills).

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	830	574	619	687	2,710
2. Students (included in 1)	555	423	321	148	1,447
3. Occupied	1,094	1,541	4,339	6,987	13,961
4. Out of work (included in 3)	727				727
5. Total population	1,924	2,115	4,958	7,674	16,671

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	819	543	491	248	2,101
2. Students (included in 1)	569	465	354	160	1,548
3. Occupied	983	1,398	3,957	6,212	12,550
4. Out of work (included in 3)	1,286				1,286
5. Total population	1,802	1,941	4,448	6,460	14,651

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.L.B.	10	314
2. G.F.S.	3	559
3. Girl Guides	{ R. 24 G. 77 B. 59	{ R. 337 G. 1296 B. 773
4. Y.W.C.A.	1	554

Students admitted to Evening Institutes (1933-34)

Ages	Boys	Girls
14—15	437	452
15—16	321	357
16—17	452	435
17—18	357	356
18—21	464	925
Total, 14—21	2,031	2,525
Over 21	380	3,630
Total, all ages	2,411	6,155

FACILITIES IN BRADFORD

(From information received from Miss Law, Miss Nettleton and others.)

Bradford has been noted for its pioneer work in health and education, but economy measures of recent years have led to restrictions in some of its work for young people. There is also a strong tradition of voluntary work in this city. Most of the Churches have their Guilds or clubs, and units of the National Societies (Girl Guides, Girls' Life Brigade, etc.) are strongly represented. The Salvation Army, too, has its Life Saving Guards. The Y.W.C.A. has an active open centre, and the Mothers' and Young Folks' Club and the Eastwood Mission also offer all-round varied programmes. Junior political groups are active, and various societies are run in connection with them (*e.g.* music, art), while the Co-operative Society encourages educational and recreational activities for young people. Musical societies and dramatic societies are a feature of the city, and the Civic Playhouse has a Sunday evening discussion club. Sports are also very popular, and cycling clubs are strong.

Needs for Future Development.—But though, taken as a whole, there are many flourishing and active societies offering opportunities for the use of leisure, it is felt by many workers that a large section of the 14-18-year-olds are left outside (apart from those who attend Evening Institutes and other existing organisations).

There is, in the first place, great need for support of existing organisations, *e.g.* the Y.W.C.A. is doing valuable work in premises which are central and quite good for their purpose, but reports show that anxiety is felt with regard to finance. They would be able considerably to extend their work in some of the outlying new housing areas were funds available.

With regard to new work, greater opportunities for physical culture, especially on "Keep Fit" lines, would be welcomed, and a course of training in club leadership would do much to stimulate development on a sound basis. The Federation of Young People's Societies (J.O.C.) co-ordinates the youth organisations to a certain extent and makes small grants, but further support from this body would be welcomed.

(*N.B.*—The useful handbook of juvenile organisations published by the Federation in 1930 and brought up to date in 1934.)

While the chief need for development would seem to be through existing organisations, some workers feel the need for a central club in Bradford for the less disciplined boys and girls, particularly those between the ages of 16-18, and with opportunities for meeting their friends in a cheerful club on Sundays.

BRISTOL

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total Population, 396,918 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over.	169,667
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	60,016
Do. Unoccupied	109,651

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	18,763
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants)	6,960
Clerks, typists, etc.	6,587
Makers of textile goods	5,943
Professional workers	4,426
Food, drinks, tobacco	4,251
Warehouse, packers, etc.	4,002
Other workers	3,070
Workers with paper, cardboard, etc.	2,823

Notes on the Employment of Girls

Girls are employed chiefly in domestic service; tobacco manufacture, chocolate and confectionery manufacture; clothing trades; printing and allied trades; boot and shoe trade; and a considerable number in shops and cafés.

Bristol has a surprisingly high percentage of juvenile unemployment compared with other towns (see Local Unemployment Index).

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	1,628	829	1,241	1,583	5,281
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	824	499	516	351	2,190
3. Occupied	1,364	2,202	5,871	9,253	18,690
4. Out of work (included in 3)	1,182				1,182
5. Total population	2,992	3,031	7,112	10,836	23,971

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	1,299	783	695	577	3,354
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	84	616	474	340	1,514
3. Occupied	1,566	2,219	5,764	9,415	18,964
4. Out of work (included in 3)		1,863			1,863
5. Total population	2,865	3,002	6,459	9,972	22,298

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	25*	1,042*
2. G.L.B.	12	435
3. Girls' Guildry	1	41
4. Y.W.C.A.	2†	375
5. Girl Guides	285	4,744
6. Church clubs	47	—
7. Works clubs	7	—
8. Open and non-political clubs	21	—
9. Political clubs	36	—
10. Clubs affiliated to the Association (including units of 1-9 above)	20	2,062

* Clubs in the Bristol Diocese.

† Includes one club and one branch.

Church Clubs.—Total membership (of 36 clubs who sent statistics) is 1520; enquiries were made of 38 Church clubs of all denominations (apart from the 9 affiliated Church clubs with a total membership of 825). Of the 36 who sent statistics of membership, 17 were mixed clubs, and 3 were known to be "open" clubs. 30 reported opening for one night a week only, 2 reported opening for three nights a week, and one every night (it had its own club house). Of the 60 per cent. who sent in details of age-groups, a little over one-third were under 14 and over 18 respectively, and a little under one-third between 14 and 18.

Factory Clubs.—There are 7 factory clubs in Bristol, of which 6 have comprehensive programmes, including athletic, educational and social activities. Three of the largest give no statistics of membership, but report that all facilities are open to the whole factory. Of the other 4, total membership equals 875, of whom 589 are over 18.

Junior Political Groups.—The Co-operative Wholesale Society has a total membership of 700. It has 22 classes for juveniles, under 14, with a total membership of 500; 6 Comrades Circles for young people (mixed) from 14 to 24, with a total membership of 120; 3 groups of Woodcraft Folk, of whom about half are under 25 years of age, with a total membership of 80. Each opens one night a week. All these groups have social, educational and athletic activities. The Comrades Circles are "run by themselves."

The Bristol Labour Party League of Youth has one group (mixed) with a membership of 150, meeting once a week. The League of Young Liberals has 3 branches with a total membership of 21. It has monthly com-

mittee meetings only, and the social side is not yet developed. Other political groups were not reported.

League of Nations Youth Groups.—There are 3 such groups, with a total membership of 300. They hold meetings twice monthly.

*Students admitted to Evening Institutes * (September 1933)*

Ages	Girls	Boys
Under 14	651	566
14—15	682	692
15—16	242	295
16—17	224	254
17—18	272	253
18—21	544	404
Total, 14—21	2,615	2,464
Over 21	3,034	1,179
Total, all ages	5,649	3,643

* Including admission to club classes.

SUMMARY OF FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN BRISTOL

Local Investigator.—Miss W. M. Gravatt (Secretary of the Bristol Association of Girls' Clubs and Assistant Secretary to the J.O.C.).

Co-operation.—Activities in the Union include competitions, inter-club visits (commenced), Members' Council, Union annual outing (members), and J.O.C. Displays. There is a swimming club in the summer, and a tennis club, and a netball club in winter open to the members of any club or organisation.

Premises.—These have been adequate for past activities undertaken, and it is usually possible to obtain certain club or factory halls free. But it is impossible to hire a large hall under £20. Large demonstrations, such as J.O.C. Displays, are therefore held out of doors in the summer.

Playing Fields.—Playgrounds are available, with special rates for organisations. The J.O.C. lent a netball court at 1s. per Saturday afternoon. Public pitches can be hired as follows: hockey, 4s.; tennis, usual rates. Two tennis courts were lent by a public school for members of clubs and organisations.

Leaders.—These are recruited from amongst Church workers, office workers, leisured women, and a few only from teachers. There are also Welfare Workers in factory clubs.

Training.—At present there are only occasional classes. Demonstrations in dramatics and handicrafts suitable for club use were recently organised by the J.O.C. A series of classes are held periodically for physical training teachers and prospective teachers. The Education Committee allowed club workers to join the handicrafts classes held for school teachers, run in conjunction with Evening Institutes.

Publicity.—This is sought chiefly through the local press. Each paper is willing as frequently as required to make announcements regarding activities, need for helpers, etc.

Unemployed.—There are two "Keep-Fit" classes (although one is not classified as such), and an afternoon club for women (social, sewing, etc.).

NEEDS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Clubs.—There are plenty of clubs in the heart of Bristol, but new housing areas are unable to cater for members, owing to lack of helpers, and more particularly leaders, who have a considerable distance to travel, to undertake work.

Leaders.—There is need for paid, qualified club leaders, who can give their whole time to running a club in new areas.

Training Schemes are wanted for voluntary workers and prospective workers, as well as training and more drafting of senior members to undertake Junior Club work than is at present the case.

Needs for Special Groups.—(a) Special consideration is needed for the members of 14-19; more subdivision of clubs into age-groups would reduce the tendency to lose members at this age. There should be more equal division of members' responsibility, where subdivision does not exist, *i.e.* each "year" represented on the club committee.

(b) For the rougher type of girl greater consideration is needed. She is only, I feel, to be acquired gradually in existing clubs.

BURNLEY

Statistics from Census of Occupation (published 1934)

Total Population, 98,259 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	42,797
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	25,931
Do. Unoccupied	16,866

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Textiles	18,769
Personal service	2,314
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants)	1,547

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	305	139	171	144	759
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	161	70	90	36	357
3. Occupied	326	507	1,479	2,359	4,671
4. Out of work (included in 3)			775		775
5. Total population	631	646	1,650	2,503	5,430

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	265	134	107	58	564
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	163	100	75	38	376
3. Occupied	332	514	1,604	2,126	4,576
4. Out of work (included in 3)			619		619
5. Total population	597	648	1,711	2,184	5,140

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	12	307+
2. G.L.B.	3	111
3. Girls' Guildry	1	No returns
4. Girl Guides	{ R. 3 G. 16 B. 8	{ R. 52 G. 316 B. 131
5. Clubs affiliated to the Union (including 1 unit of organisation 4)	3	94

Students admitted to Evening Institutes (1933-34)

Ages	Boys	Girls
14—15	344	343
15—16	131	111
16—17	67	79
17—18	53	75
18—21	98	168
Total, 14—21	693	776
Over 21	122	284
Total, all ages	815	1,060

FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN BURNLEY

Local Investigator.—Miss Wood, 3 Woodleigh, Manchester Road, Burnley.

Co-operation.—Difficult (see general position below).

Premises.—None adequate for meetings, etc.

Playing Fields.—One available for Union.

Leaders.—Drawn from Toc H League of Women Helpers, Old Girls' Societies of Schools, Welfare Workers, Teachers, Social Service Centres, Church members, and leisured women.

Training.—No facilities.

Needs.—The club for unemployed women in the town is well supported (comparatively). The great needs of this area are premises and trained full-time workers. There is also need for a mixed club for working girls.

Notes on General Conditions.—"Home conditions are often very bad. At present educational facilities do not attract the type of girl who most needs help. Political opinion runs high in the town and there is considerable party feeling. Enterprises of the so-called "leisured" people are always suspect—and it is difficult to form a committee for social activities which is representative of all parties."

CHESTER

Statistics from Census of Occupation (published 1934)

Total Population, 41,438 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	17,243
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	6,245
Do. Unoccupied	10,998

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	2,884
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants, excluding clerks and typists)	1,039
Clerks and typists, etc.	594
Professional occupations	491
Makers of textile goods and articles of dress	429

Notes on Employment of Girls and Women

1. Two tobacco factories (8 A.M. to 5 P.M., or earlier if on short time).
2. One clothing factory (8.30 A.M. to 5 P.M., or earlier if on short time).
3. One electrical switchgear (8 A.M. to 5.30 P.M. Overtime to 8 P.M.).
4. Shops and domestic service take a good number, and in the summer the catering trade takes an increasing number.

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	194	134	212	215	755
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	104	62	70	24	260
3. Occupied	118	227	617	909	1,871
4. Out of work (included in 3)	128				128
5. Total population	312	361	829	1,124	2,626

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	136	74	58	165	433
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	102	57	51	152	362
3. Occupied	189	251	628	1,033	2,101
4. Out of work (included in 3)			159		159
5. Total population	325	325	686	1,198	2,534

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	4	107+
2. G.L.B.	2	38
3. Girls' Guildry	1	73
4. Girl Guides	{ R. 6 G. 20 B. 17	{ R. 62 G. 274 B. 240
5. Clubs affiliated to the Federation (including 4 units of organisations 1-4)	9	345

SUMMARY OF FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN CHESTER

Local Investigator.—Miss Llewellyn, Bishop Lloyd's House, Watergate Street, Chester.

Co-operation.—Clubs combine in a Federation Choir and special classes ; there is a combined Folk-Dance Party and generally a demonstration.

Premises.—For a Demonstration we have the use of the Assembly Room at the Town Hall, free of charge.

Playing Fields. A small field suitable for rounders and netball is available, free, for clubs. Business firms have tennis courts.

Leaders.—These are drawn from Church members and leisured women mainly.

Training.—No facilities exist.

Publicity.—This has been left in the main to the different clubs. No general appeal has been made.

Unemployed.—The Advisory Council for the Help of the Unemployed organised a Physical Training Class for young women. A group of women was formed for needlework, thrift work, etc., but was not very successful.

Notes on Amusements.—I should not think Choral Societies, etc., make much appeal to the average club member. Cinemas and the theatre seem very popular, but I should not think political feeling is very strong or that it very much affects recreational facilities other than that dances promoted by political parties (and others) are popular.

Special Needs.—I feel that more open undenominational clubs are necessary, though these are admittedly difficult to organise and run owing to lack of funds and helpers. It is particularly difficult to find workers, other than those who may be attached, say, to a Church, and therefore to their own G.F.S. We are in touch with the Local Authorities through the J.O.C. We

should aim, I think, at more co-operation between clubs. It is possible that new housing areas have not enough club facilities, though I am told by club workers that girls who move out of the city to new houses still remain members of clubs in the city. The new estates are not so far away that they feel cut off from their own organisations. The type of girl difficult to retain is the one who after leaving school seems to want nothing better than walk about the streets. This type is very difficult to attract.

DURHAM CITY

Total Population, 16,224

Population of Females 14 years and over 6,452

Notes on Employment of Girls and Women

The majority of girls are employed in domestic service; others work in laundries (often with very long hours and no holiday, except Bank Holiday, etc.), shops, as barmaids and as nurses.

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	1	141
2. Y.W.C.A.	1	60
3. C.A.W.G.	1	No returns.
4. Girl Guides	{ R. 7 G. 9 B. 8	{ R. 61 G. 150 B. 112
5. Clubs affiliated to the Union (including units of organisations 1-4)	8	267

FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN DURHAM

Local Investigator.—Miss E. W. Scott (Union Secretary).

Co-operation.—This is a new Union. We are just organising this.

Premises.—There is great difficulty in obtaining premises.

Playing Fields.—School playgrounds are entirely and definitely barred, while public recreation grounds are poor or nil.

Leaders.—Voluntary leaders and helpers are drawn from amongst Old Girls' Societies of Schools, Teachers, Church members, and leisured women.

Training.—There are no facilities at present, except through Evening Classes, to learn crafts, and these are not given from a leadership point of view.

Particular Difficulties.—Inadequate premises and lack of good leaders (or possible lack of any training or inspiration for leaders). Many small clubs connected with church or chapel are struggling without accommodation and not knowing what to do other than socials and sometimes country dancing. There is a great need for leaders, training, and propaganda work. There is a very small leisured class, and many leaders, or would-be leaders, do not know what to do or what can be done.

CROOK (COUNTY DURHAM)

Total Population, 11,690

Population of Females 14 years and over 4,164

Local Investigator.—Mrs Maud Lutz.

Girls work mostly in domestic service or in shops.

Facilities and Needs of the District.—Four Church clubs, mixed, each opening one night a week, are the only facilities available. There are no “amusements,” and sports clubs, etc., play very little part. The response to educational facilities is good on the handwork side, but otherwise there is not a great deal of interest in cultural pursuits.

Church Clubs	Membership in Age-Groups			
	Under 14	14-18	Over 18	Total
Wesley Guild	2-3	3-4	majority	40
Young People's Class	—	6	2	8
Christian Endeavour	—	4	8	12
Church Club	?	?	?	?

Co-operation.—Very little.*Premises.*—The Churches.

Needs.—Many more clubs are needed, both social and educational, with better facilities for co-operation, closer touch with Local Authorities, publicity teachers and leaders, holiday homes and helpers. There is the need to train girls to occupy their leisure-time suitably. Much pioneer work could be undertaken.

Need is great in all districts for the ordinary type of individual, not necessarily interested in Churches.

The needs of adolescent girls are most urgent.

CHILTON BUILDINGS AND WINDLESTONE (COUNTY DURHAM)

Investigation of a Mining District of South Durham by Mrs Maud Lutz (ex-Leader of Old Scholars' Club)

Nature of District.—A coal-mining district. Most girls help at home or go into service.

General remarks.—There is great poverty in the district due to unemployment of fathers and brothers; little response to educational facilities. Sports clubs of various kinds, dramatic and choral societies, etc., help a little but seem to leave the mass untouched. There is a definitely socialistic atmosphere, but it does not appear to affect the recreational facilities.

Club Facilities :

Better Britain Brigade	Open one night a week.
Christian Endeavour	" " " "
Wesley Guild	" " " "
Adult School	" " " "
Women's Institute	Open once monthly.
British Legion	" " fortnightly.
Labour Party (2 branches)	" " "

Membership according to age-groups

Type of Club	Under 14	14-18	Over 18	Total
Better Britain Brigade	6	6	—	12
Christian Endeavour	2	4	6	12
Wesley Guild	2	6	12	20
Adult School	1	6	18	25
Women's Institute	—	2	58	60
British Legion	—	2	14	16
Labour Party	—	2	22	24
Totals .	11	28	130	169

HULL

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total Population, 313,366 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over. . . .	121,899
Do. Occupied (including those out of work) . .	36,766
Do. Unoccupied	85,133

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	13,054
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants) .	6,048
Clerks, typists	3,564
Professional workers	2,468
Makers of textile goods	2,266
Other workers	2,252
(unskilled)	(1,786)
Warehouse : packers, etc. . . .	1,806
Food, drinks, tobacco	1,231
Metal workers (not electro-plate or precious metals). .	1,170

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Totals
1. Not gainfully occupied .	1,301	901	1,327	2,286	5,815
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	544	319	242	281	1,386
3. Occupied .	1,084	1,734	4,563	6,644	14,025
4. Out of work (included in 3) .	1,498				1,498
5. Total population .	2,385	2,635	5,890	8,930	19,840

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied .	890	522	386	229	2,027
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	631	372	249	80	1,332
3. Occupied .	1,513	2,199	5,338	7,858	16,908
4. Out of work (included in 3) .	1,805				1,805
5. Total population .	2,403	2,721	5,724	8,087	18,935

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	3	142
2. G.L.B.	13	577
3. F.W.G.C.	2	No returns.
4. Girls' Guildry	1	26
5. Y.W.C.A.	1	695
6. Girl Guides	{ R. 17 G. 67 B. 50	{ R. 247 G. 1,221 B. 765
7. Clubs affiliated to the Federation (including units of organisations 1-6)	11	1,803

Students admitted to Evening Institutes (1933-34)

Ages	Boys	Girls
14—15	540	559
15—16	180	252
16—17	108	209
17—18	92	144
18—21	148	445
Total, 14—21	1,068	1,609
Over 21	771	1,793
Total, all ages	1,839	3,402

FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN HULL

Local Investigator.—Miss L. M. Blackledge, Hull Community Council, 5 Cogan Chambers, Bowtalley Lane, Hull.

Co-operation.—A Musical Festival which includes music, drama and elocution, is held for a week in May. Old Scholars' Associations, Girls' Clubs, Boys' Brigades, etc., as well as classes from the Elementary Schools and Secondary Schools take part; various Old Scholars' Associations compete with each other at games. There are a good many tennis, badminton, cricket and hockey teams in connection with the churches and works. The local Federation is helping in the matter of co-operation.

Premises.—Old Scholars' Associations are allowed the use of schools, usually making a small payment to the caretaker. There are a fair number of halls for hire available for lectures and demonstrations.

Playing Fields.—There are not adequate playing fields available in Hull. A few firms have sports grounds (see *Use of Leisure* pamphlet, p. 35).

Leaders.—There is a great dearth of voluntary leaders for club work in this town. Teachers give their services in connection with the Old Scholars' Association and, in many cases, in connection with the Church activities.

Training.—The Y.W.C.A. has recently undertaken a short course of training each year, but apart from this the facilities are exceedingly inadequate.

Needs.—Provision in Hull is most inadequate. There is need for more clubs, and particularly for more leaders, teachers and helpers. If these could be found, premises might be available, although there is a scarcity of premises in the new housing estates. Playing fields and holiday homes are also needed. Luncheon clubs are not needed in this town, as the one in the Y.W.C.A. meets the need of shop assistants and those in offices on the whole. It is not usual for the girls to stay to lunch at their works except in the big works where adequate provision is made. With regard to the club facilities for young married women, I have been struck with the aversion the majority of the young unemployed men have to their wives attending any sort of club. Although the Pleasant Monday Afternoons, etc., seem to be fairly well attended, the members always strike me as being either middle-aged or elderly, with just a scattering of young married women.

Notes on Other Conditions.—There is in Hull a Young People's Institute which provides very adequate playing fields, some twenty-five acres, but this is chiefly used by middle-class folk rather than by the working-class. Teachers, etc., belong to it. The Institute itself provides Evening Classes and runs Sunday afternoons for any one who wishes to attend, but can hardly be regarded in the nature of a club. Political feeling is fairly strong in Hull. The Junior Imperial League consists of about 300 boys and girls from 14 to 25 years of age (3 branches), and there is a Junior Conservative Association that caters for those over 21. The Junior Imperial League meets once a week and runs socials, lectures and debates. They also have classes on political subjects. There are 3 Junior Liberal Associations in Hull which have between them a membership of about 600, aged from 16 and upwards. Each Association has its club room, which is open every day. Political lectures, socials, dances, etc., are their activities.

KENT

FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN KENT

A special enquiry was undertaken by the Kent Education Committee, in co-operation with the Kent Council of Social Service, through the Juvenile Welfare Bureau officers. Particulars of voluntary organisations were sent in, in many cases giving the number of nights open and the nature of the activities, and in some cases the names of people interested who might be willing to help in the establishment and running of new clubs. These facts, registered at the National Council of Girls' Clubs' Headquarters, form the nucleus of a useful bureau of information concerning clubs in Kent. It is not proposed to give a list of facilities in this report but to summarise the suggestions sent in with regard to the needs for future development.

Ashford reports that there are "plenty of existing organisations and classes if the girls will make use of them." It is noted that there is no co-operation between clubs although there is friendly rivalry, *e.g.* sports matches.

Beckenham and Penge returns show that most of the clubs are units of the National Societies and Church Clubs. There is no known co-operation and it is felt that "an open club in the district should do well."

Bromley considers that girls are well provided for by clubs (3 Church, 1 "open," 2 Old Scholars') but that "it seems to be difficult to retain any class of girls after 14 years of age."

Cranbrook notes 5 Church Clubs and 6 other groups, but urges "more 'open' clubs needed."

Dartford emphasises the need for development, particularly in Stone and Greenhithe—an industrial area with few local amenities, and Barnehurst and Welling—a rapidly growing residential area with very large new housing estates, where there is very little provision for juvenile organisations. "An 'open' club is an urgent need of the Welling area." It is reported that unemployed women and girls have been invited by the Y.W.C.A. to a social afternoon every Tuesday at the Club. Admission is free and there is opportunity for rest and recreation.

With regard to needs for development it is reported: "It is difficult to attract or retain girls of 16-18 in any clubs except Works Welfare Schemes. It is advisable to secure the admission of girls into clubs at about 13½ years of age, so that they may be linked up with a juvenile organisation before they leave school. There is a great need for central open clubs where girls can be initiated into club principles from the start. The Clubs need to be formed from a nucleus under carefully selected leaders, with the activities graded according to the members' ages and needs. Formation of a Club Union and affiliation to the N.C.G.C. Club is essential."

Reference is made to the absence of halls or other premises available at reasonable rents. (Playgrounds are already used by the school children.)

Deal reports "there is need for a club for girls, especially those who are employed in shops, such as haberdashery, chemists, etc. This club should be open to all and instruction in physical training, crafts, etc. should be provided." In Walmer the work could be extended if the Parish Hall premises were enlarged.

Dover reports a need for social and recreational facilities for unemployed girls, *e.g.* in connection with a Junior Instruction Centre.

Erith notes that there is no sustained co-operation but that this would

no doubt be encouraged for some definite undertaking of general interest. It is difficult to attract or retain girls who work in factories who seem to have no interest either in educational classes or existing organisations for girls (ages 15 or 16 to 22). The investigator suggests encouragement of interest in sport, dramatic and operatic activities, etc. in more of the works.

Faversham reports clubs of various kinds and suggests that the question of future development might be discussed in conference with leaders of existing clubs.

Folkestone reports the difficulty with regard to young people employed in the hotels and boarding-houses, owing to the seasonal nature of the work and the awkward hours. This applies in a lesser degree to young shop assistants. Further development is needed to provide for girls at present unattracted to any religious or social body—"a detachment which develops from the date of school leaving."

Maidstone considers that local girls are very well provided for, but "the majority of girls engaged in clerical work appear to lose touch with their clubs shortly after obtaining work—probably on account of evening studies. There is also a very low type, fortunately rare, that it is found almost impossible to interest."

Margate urges that "the existing organisations are inadequate—through lack of public support, suitable leaders and sufficient accommodation. A club is needed open each evening and all day (or afternoon and evenings) and Sunday, for domestic workers and others working away from home."

Medway is concerned with the fact that 70 per cent. of the girls registered at the bureau (14-18 years) are unconnected with any organisation. "Throughout the whole of the Medway area there appears to be a need for some Association for older girls 16-18. It might be possible for the present voluntary association to be developed, but for them to be successful they would have to be an advanced unit in order to counteract the outside attraction. The real difficulty is to find suitable and alert leaders, and it is very doubtful if with the taste she has had of freedom, the girl of 16-18 can be attracted to a club. It is suggested that attention should be devoted more to the 14-16 girls: fuller development of Old Scholars' Associations: the possible organisation of Evening Classes in the direction of forming from them Social Associations: the development of the proposed Instruction Centres on definitely social lines as well as education and handicrafts,—this is considered important. (An important point to bear in mind is that nearly 700 girls are attending Evening Classes in the district during the winter months)." It is noted that there are no halls or premises known other than those used by various societies for existing meetings, and there are no playgrounds other than the Chatham Football ground which could be utilised or rented.

Ramsgate reports that apart from the girls who do not wish to belong to a club of any sort, there are "girls who might benefit by attendance but who, having ceased to attend at 14, do not care to rejoin. A number of girls cease attendance when, or soon after, they leave school, on account of employment, difference of outlook, etc." There is no open club for girls in Ramsgate, and voluntary organisations are needed in the new housing areas at Whitehall and, to a smaller degree, at Newington. There appear to be no halls or other premises, including playgrounds, available at reasonable rents for development purposes.

Sandwich considers that further developments are probably unnecessary as the villages are well equipped with Guides, etc. and an Old Girls' Association serves Sandwich.

Sevenoaks gives a detailed list of 17 existing clubs and makes no suggestion for development.

Sheerness gives a list of 10 clubs and reports local co-operation by means of occasional interclub sports meetings. (No suggestions for development.)

Sidcup gives a report of existing clubs and considers that the only apparent need is for development in connection with unemployed girls and young women through the Instruction Centre.

Sittingbourne urges that "development is needed in the same direction as suggested for the Medway area." Girls of 16-18 should be specially considered, and "it appears that some association dealing with adolescent girls is needed. The local social service Guild is attempting to do something."

Tonbridge sends in a list of 15 clubs (2 attached to firms) but considers that more open clubs are needed.

Tunbridge Wells considers that "the district seems to be very well provided for in this respect. Most of the Churches have some kind of organisation for their young people. In the country district round about it seems that the Girls' Friendly Society and the Guides cover the ground and there would not be room for other organisations. Some of the villages have school-hall clubs which run in the summer. . . . I believe it is generally found more difficult to retain the interest of girls in the older age-groups. . . . A number of boys and girls who work in this town live at some distance away, and have nowhere to go at lunch time. Some kind of luncheon club where they could spend their lunch hour and perhaps have hot drinks for sale is needed. The cafés are too expensive. The Sunday Club, started last winter, filled a great need, and it is expected that the work will be extended next winter."

LEICESTER

Statistics from Census of Occupation (published 1934)

Total Population, 239,111 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over.	103,743
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	52,950
Do. Unoccupied	50,793

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Textile workers	15,915
Makers of textile goods	12,910
Personal service	7,214
Clerks, typists, etc.	4,748
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants)	3,428
Warehouse : store-packers	2,121
Professional workers	1,792
Other workers	1,455
Makers of paper, cardboard, bookbinders	961

Juvenile population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	473	289	367	481	1,610
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	335	213	206	122	876
3. Occupied	1,263	1,582	3,989	6,319	13,153
4. Out of work (included in 3)	425				425
5. Total population	1,736	1,871	4,356	6,800	14,763

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	493	293	241	143	1,170
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	389	258	185	80	912
3. Occupied	1,232	1,436	3,724	5,676	12,068
4. Out of work (included in 3)	573				573
5. Total population	1,725	1,729	3,965	5,819	13,238

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	11	299
2. G.L.B.	21	709
3. Girls' Guildry	8	473
4. Y.W.C.A.	3	357
5. Girl Guides	{ R. 23 G. 54 B. 41	{ R. 261 G. 1,154 B. 711
6. Clubs affiliated to the Federation	2	244

Students admitted to Evening Institutes (1933-34)

Ages	Boys	Girls
14—15	886	777
15—16	292	287
16—17	304	341
17—18	314	342
18—21	413	727
Total 14—21	2,209	2,474
Over 21	551	2,002
Total all ages	2,760	4,476

FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN LEICESTER

Local Investigator.—Miss P. E. Hatton, Gartonia, Elm Road, Nottingham.

The chief factories employing girls are the artificial silk and woollen underwear works and hosiery works. There is little unemployment amongst

girls in Leicester, and the conditions of employment are generally good although it is customary for many young people to work till 7 P.M. This affects the attendance at clubs, since they are too tired at the end of a long day.

About six firms have trained welfare workers and several firms have sports clubs. Membership consists mostly of those over 18, and although the social clubs are mixed it is doubtful whether a large proportion of the girl manual workers attend. Some of the firms co-operate with the Evening Institutes to organise education classes for their workers.

Other activities reported include :

St Margaret's Sports Association, which has a membership that approaches 100, but 90 per cent. are over 18. Athletic and social activities at a cost of 3d. per week (supporters 1d.) are available every week-night and a hall is open on Sundays after 3 P.M.

A group of Woodcraft Folk, "undenominational and socialistic without being political," has two meetings per week and includes in its activities woodcraft, camping, hiking, sun-bathing, swimming, craft work, folk-dancing, and singing.

Two Old Girls' Associations have each a membership of about 200. Although association meetings are infrequent (3 and 5 a year), other clubs are connected, *e.g.* a hockey, tennis and cricket club and a dramatic section.

Interesting results were obtained from enquiries in the local hospitals. Four hospitals had a Nurses' Recreation Club. Details of one of these are as follows :

Subscription (Monthly)—

Trained Staff	.	.	.	.	.	.	1s.
4th Year Nurses	.	.	.	.	.	.	8d.
3rd	"	.	.	.	.	.	6d.
2nd	"	.	.	.	.	.	4d.
1st	"	.	.	.	.	.	2d.

Nature of Activities—

Swimming, tennis and hockey.

A good Ranger Company.

Competitions for needlework.

Competitions for photography.

Concerts, Whist-Drives, Dances.

A strong Missionary Group. The Chapel belongs to the Nursing Staff entirely.

Facilities for outdoor games.—Tennis courts, and the part use of Sports grounds.

There is a library, and daily, weekly and monthly periodicals are also provided.

Another hospital club has a comprehensive list of activities : concerts, dances, whist-drives, lectures, competitions and debates : handicraft includes embroidery, basket-work, leather-work, toymaking and raffia : netball, rambles, swimming and cricket. There are 4 tennis courts, a cricket ground and croquet lawn. It has as its aim "Fellowship and the highest ideals in the Nursing World."

The Isolation hospital, which has a club for both nurses and domestic staff, reports various activities but regrets that "the question of books is a

very difficult one, because we are not allowed to borrow from the College of Nursing owing to infection. There is a supply of daily papers and periodicals."

NOTES BY M. ROOFF

Co-operation.—Though there is a Federation of Girls' Clubs in Leicester it has been hampered by the difficulty of finding a Federation Secretary who is free to devote most of her time to developing club work and encouraging co-operation. It is reported by the J.E.B. that the numbers registered at the Exchange who attend juvenile organisations have fallen in the last eighteen months from 80 per cent. to 30 per cent. Though much social work is going on in Leicester there is little co-ordination, and the Association of Social Workers would welcome a strong Club Union with a full-time secretary with whom they could keep in touch (*e.g.* the J.E.B. Secretary, Probation Officer, and Welfare Workers are anxious to link up girls' work).

There is need for more trained leaders and helpers in club work. While there is one large girls' club in a poor part of the city, premises are a difficulty in certain districts, *e.g.* the Y.W.C.A. is doing very fine work in a house which is too small for the needs of the district. The new housing estates, *e.g.* Saffron Park, need both centres and leaders, and there are a number of small housing estates in outlying regions which are faced with great difficulties since there are no Churches or Evening Institutes; they are often badly lit and some distance from the city. In one area a Tenants' Association has the use of a schoolroom at a nominal rent and the juniors have a club.

There are great possibilities for development of club work generally in Leicester if an organiser could be free to co-ordinate existing work and arouse local support for expansion.

LIVERPOOL

Statistics from the Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total Population, 855,539 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over.	336,082
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	122,075
Do. Unoccupied	214,007

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service (including institutions, clubs, hotels, etc.)	37,746
Commerce, finance, insurance (excluding clerks, including shop assistants)	19,202
Clerks and draughtsmen : typists	13,249
Makers of textile goods and articles of dress	9,814
Other workers	8,278
Other workers (unskilled)	(6,523)
Professional workers (excluding clerical)	7,909
Warehousemen, storekeepers, packers	7,875
Makers of food, drinks, tobacco	4,464
Persons employed in transport and communications	2,234
Metal workers (excluding electro-plate or precious metals)	2,003

Notes on the Employment of Girls.—Liverpool, like other large centres of trade and commerce, offers employment of great variety to girls and young women, not only to those resident in Liverpool but to others in surrounding towns (e.g. Birkenhead, Bootle). Many are affected by the general depression of trade in Lancashire.

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied . .	4,165	2,700	3,908	4,938	15,711
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	2,020	1,254	1,063	944	5,281
3. Occupied	3,171	5,000	12,915	19,778	40,864
4. Out of work (included in 3)		6,065			6,065
5. Total population	7,336	7,700	16,823	24,716	56,575

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied . .	3,477	1,938	1,944	1,061	8,420
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	2,332	1,315	1,033	511	5,191
3. Occupied	3,623	5,520	13,910	21,139	44,192
4. Out of work (included in 3)		9,193			9,193
5. Total population	7,100	7,458	15,854	22,200	52,612

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	24	743+
2. G.L.B.	5	237
3. Girls' Guildry	9	516
4. Y.W.C.A.	1	22
5. Girl Guides	R. 107 G. 226 B. 192	{ R. 1,305 G. 5,954 B. 4,027
6. C.A.W.G.	7	No return.
7. Clubs affiliated to the Union (including units of organisations 1-6)	109+19 *	{ 5,852 2,014 † 570 † *

* Associate members.

† Estimated figures.

Membership of the Liverpool J.O.C.(Table from *Liverpool Year Book of Juvenile Organisations* (1934), p. 46)

Type of Organisation	Under 14	14-17	18 and over	Total
Clubs and Guilds	3,668	2,656*	—	6,324
Girl Guides	6,759	4,648	—	11,407
G.F.S.	484	1,236	—	1,720
Girls' Guildry	360	148	—	508
G.L.B.	103	39	—	142
Evening Play Centres (Education Committee)	3,700	—	—	3,700
Totals	15,074	8,727	—	23,801

* This figure includes works clubs only which are affiliated to the Liverpool Union of Girls' Clubs.

FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN LIVERPOOL

Local Investigator.—Miss J. Duckworth, 30 Bluecoat Chambers, School Lane, Liverpool, 1.

Co-operation.—In Liverpool co-operation is very good, as this is the purpose of the Union (which has been established forty-three years). The Union's programme of the year's events is concerned with this (see Annual Reports). The Education Committee (a) gives a grant to the J.O.C., for those members under 18 years, of 9d. to 2s. per head, according to age and the frequency of meetings; (b) allows the use of school premises for caretaker's fee only; (c) provides some teachers (recently extended through the Union's negotiations, see Club Institute scheme); (d) allows access freely to schools or Junior Instruction Centres. The General Secretary is in close touch with Education Officers and Inspectors, and is a member of the Juvenile Employment Committee.

Premises.—These are inadequate: none is free. Schools are available for caretaker's fee for inter-club tests (not a very good "club atmosphere"). For big demonstrations no city hall is both large enough and of the right planning.

Playing Fields.—These are inadequate. The Corporation's playing fields are suitable for rounders, but poor for hockey. There is need for many more hockey and rounders pitches. The Union has no playing fields of its own comparable with the one hundred and one acres of ideal playing fields owned by our brother organisation, who rent us one hockey pitch and one rounders pitch.

Holidays.—The Liverpool Union is fortunate in possessing two holiday homes (total accommodation 60 per week), and it co-operates with the Y.H.A. The greatest difficulty is caused by so many firms and employees adopting August Bank Holiday week.

Leaders.—The majority of leaders are Church workers, who include business women, Church Army sisters, nuns and other Church sisters, and a

very few leisured women. The Free Church Women's Auxiliary organises a good luncheon club, which is most acceptable. There is a fair proportion of teachers (best if not working with own children) and a number of ex-club members (very good—would be better if trained in club leadership). A few leaders are supplied by Toc H League of Women Helpers (possible extension through training scheme), and a few from Old Girls' Societies of schools and from students (e.g. Liverpool Physical Training College). Some workers are found through the Council of Social Service and Welfare workers run clubs in connection with their own factories.

Training.—The Union has organised training courses in music, drama, handwork and physical training, and is in need of development in all these and maintenance in physical training. The Union is now a recognised training centre in Club Leadership Certificate I. (supplementing Social Science Certificate, University) and Certificate III.

Publicity.—The Union best becomes known through its work, but propaganda week will probably be necessary. The local press is at present unwilling to accept weekly club notes.

Unemployed.—For Union's policy see Report, Part I. Sec. VI. The Union has made an experiment and issued a Report regarding this question (see Part I. Sec. IX. 3). There is close co-operation with the Juvenile Employment Committee, and the Club Institute scheme will make greater co-operation possible.

Needs.—The girl population may be considered under three headings :

- (a) Those employed, or from families employed, in skilled occupations : shop assistants, clerks, artisans.
- (b) Those employed in higher grade factories.
- (c) Those employed in casual work or in lower grade factories.

(a) Need cultural activity, but they are largely unconscious of the need ; they probably attend night school in the earlier years for vocational courses.

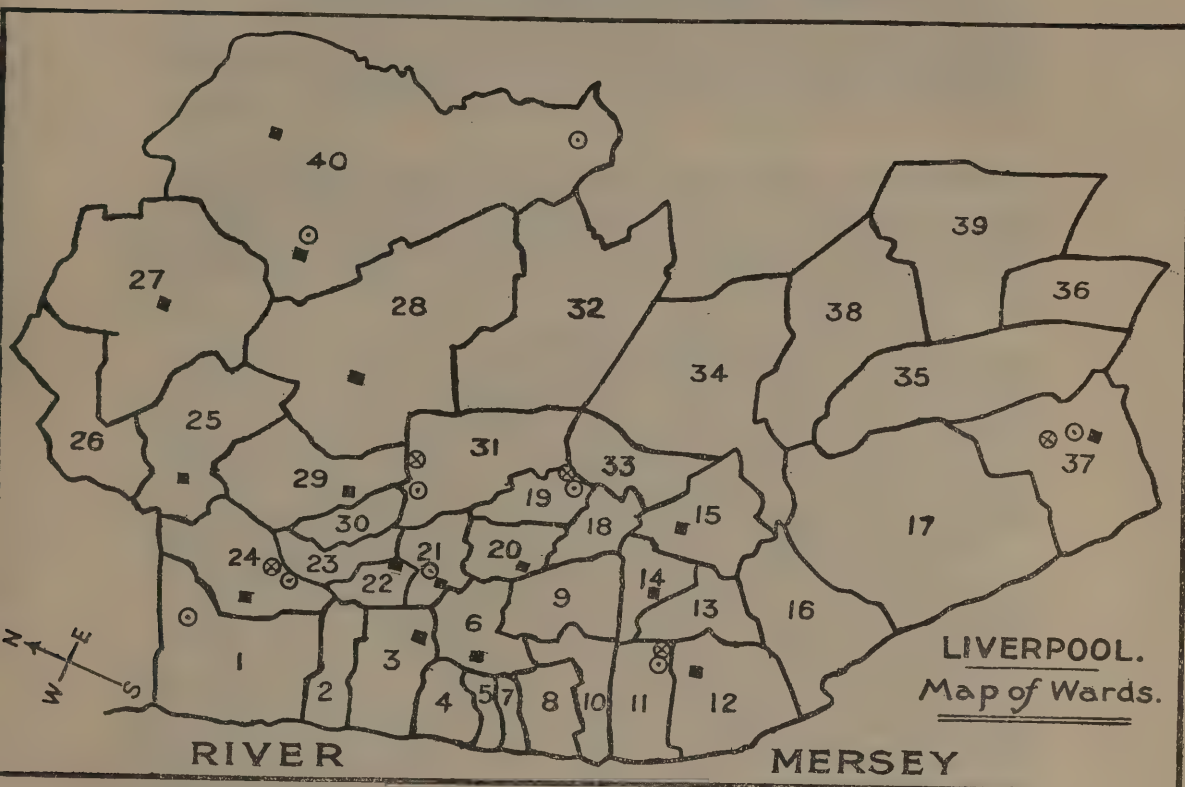
(b) Specially promising material : probably only attend night school for a short time or not at all : probably the best type of members—good, steady families, but some on the verge of poverty. They are conscious of the need for education.

(c) Difficult and in special need : probably need to be " caught young " : probably marry earlier and are old for their years : probably the class most greatly affected by unemployment. They are attractive but difficult to attract ; education seems to them childish, and it is probably easier for them to fall into unemployment. This group need to be urged before leaving school, or else to be introduced to specially attractive clubs.

There is a general need for more clubs (see map regarding suggestions for Club Institutes), and for more teachers, leaders and helpers.

LIVERPOOL UNION OF GIRLS' CLUBS

Map showing possible sites for CLUB INSTITUTES in relation to existing
JUNIOR INSTRUCTION CENTRES and EVENING INSTITUTES



LIVERPOOL.
Map of Wards.

■ Junior Evening Institutes.

⊕ Junior Instruction Centres. (Those in Wards 11, 31, 37, 19 and 24 in existence; others contemplated.)

○ Possible sites for CLUB INSTITUTES. (That in Ward 21, Shaw Street, in existence.)

Numbers indicate Wards as follows:—

- | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Sandhills. | 9. Abercromby. | 17. Aigburth. | 25. Walton. | 33. Wavertree West. |
| 2. North Scotland. | 10. Gt. George. | 18. Edge Hill. | 26. Warbreck. | 34. Wavertree. |
| 3. South Scotland. | 11. Brunswick. | 19. Kensington. | 27. Fazakerley. | 35. Allerton. |
| 4. Vauxhall. | 12. Dingle. | 20. Low Hill. | 28. West Derby. | 36. Much Woolton. |
| 5. Exchange. | 13. Princes Park. | 21. Everton. | 29. Anfield. | 37. Garston. |
| 6. St Anne's. | 14. Granby. | 22. Netherfield. | 30. Breckfield. | 38. Childwall. |
| 7. Castle Street. | 15. Sefton Park East. | 23. St Domingo. | 31. Fairfield. | 39. Little Woolton. |
| 8. St Peter's. | 16. Sefton Park West. | 24. Kirkdale. | 32. Old Swan. | 40. Croxteth. |

LONDON

Enquiry by the N.C.G.C. into recreational facilities available for girls
and young women and the need for development.

Care has been taken not to overlap with the enquiry made for the survey of *London Life and Labour*, and close touch has been kept with the investigator on "Leisure." Questionnaires were sent to leaders of London clubs, as in the rest of England, through the National and Local Organisations, and an area enquiry form was filled in by a few workers who were familiar with the facilities and needs of a locality. I am much indebted to the Survey Assistant, Miss J. Nicholson, who brought together the bulk of the material and made supplementary enquiries in London. She is also to be credited with many of the suggestions for development.

London Boroughs have been grouped in districts which correspond generally with the postal areas, but there is necessarily some overlapping, *e.g.* part of St Marylebone is in the W.1 area but it is included as a whole in the N.W. area. Some clubs in one borough also serve girls living in a neighbouring borough, *e.g.* Shoreditch and Finsbury. Similarly the Evening Institutes, particularly the Literary Institutes, and other educational bodies draw their membership from widely scattered parts of London.

M. ROOFF.

London is a centre of special activity for the National Youth Organisations, most of which have their headquarters in the Capital. Their units are to be found in varying strength in most of the London Boroughs. In most areas, too, the Churches are serving numbers of young people through their Guilds and Clubs.

London's Evening Institutes, particularly the Women's Institutes in the poorest areas, offer many social facilities (see Part I.), while the Old Scholars' Clubs are linked together in an Association which receives the voluntary support of a great many school teachers. There are in addition some open "unattached" clubs, some works clubs, and, on a few new housing estates, some mixed clubs for the children of tenants. Clubs for special groups, *e.g.* Hospital Staff, particularly the domestic staff, are becoming more general.

The Settlements are concentrated in certain districts in London—the East (Poplar, Bethnal Green, Canning Town, Stepney) and the South-East from Kennington to Woolwich. There are three Residential and a few Educational Settlements in other districts. They are working in districts which are uniformly poor, and the leaders and helpers are drawn mostly from other areas. In contrast, the West and the South-West have both rich and poor, and a more active part is played by the local inhabitants in the provision of social and recreational facilities for young people. The Northern area has become steadily more congested, and the Missions are working to provide clubs and other social facilities. While Islington and Finsbury have a number of organisations with active helpers, they are particularly in need of a co-ordinating body.

The East End is relatively well served by social organisations, but it has the great disadvantage of being largely isolated, by reason of the poor transport facilities, from Central London. (The cost and inconvenience of travelling by 'bus and tram are prohibitive to club girls.) In the South-East district several areas are poorly served by Youth Organisations, *e.g.* Brixton and Lewisham, and workers have stressed the need for club facilities.

While Settlements have for more than a generation served some of the poorest areas, yet even with their comprehensive social activities they cannot fully meet the needs of the young people for social and recreational activities. Other areas which have been well-to-do neighbourhoods in the past, but have now changed their character, are often without a Settlement. Residential areas have a large proportion of domestic workers whose needs for social facilities are specially great, while the new housing estates are often very inadequately served or even entirely lacking in clubs for girls.

So we find great variation in the provision of recreational facilities in the London Boroughs, and it would perhaps be of interest to consider them Borough by Borough in relation to the economic and social background of each area.

EASTERN AREA

SHOREDITCH

From information received from the Secretary of the Shoreditch Federation of Girls' Clubs (Miss Rouse) and from questionnaires received from 6 clubs: Shoreditch Union (2), Camp Fire (1), F.W.G.C. (1), G.L.B. (1), L.G.C.U. (1).

Shoreditch Federation.—Details of the 11 clubs with a membership of 1023 will be found in Tables II and III.

Details have also been received from other local clubs, including a mission in connection with which a concert party is held, and a mixed club, originally an Old Scholars' Club, which is financed from the profits of a small shop run by the Secretary. There are also a number of Church Guilds.

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—Shoreditch is a very poor area (18.0 per cent. living in poverty) with a high percentage of overcrowding (44.5 per cent. persons living 2 or more to a room). There are school playgrounds and a small recreation ground available for games attached to the Geffrye Museum. The girls are nearly all employed in factory work, or shops, mostly in the district. Clothing, machining, printing, boxmaking, cigarette making are the chief occupations. A great many work long hours, with too much overtime, while many girls are on short-time in the slack season.

Facilities and Needs.—There is a Club Union but no J.O.C. or Council of Social Service. (There was for some years a J.O.C. closely connected with the After-Care Association.) The following details are taken from the Federation Secretary's report. The Federation arranges music competitions, rambles, combined meetings, occasional displays, dances, swimming, netball, and the leaders meet at After-Care Conferences, etc. The Town Hall is lent free for displays, and accommodation is given by the L.C.C. Women's Evening Institute. Voluntary helpers are recruited from Toc H League of Women Helpers, Colleges, Old Girls' Societies of Schools, and Church members. Publicity is secured through the *Hackney Gazette* which publishes accounts of displays, etc. The response to educational facilities is poor on the whole for technical subjects, but the L.C.C. Women's Evening Institute and the Junior Men's Institute attract large numbers, especially for drill, dramatic and operatic classes, millinery, carpentry (for girls also), etc. The district is well served by voluntary organisations, except in Haggerston, where an open club appears to be needed. (The Maurice Hostel Settlement would like to start one there.) Club premises are inadequate and tennis courts are needed.

The following remarks are taken from questionnaires. "There is a falling off of members at 14-16." "There are a sufficient number of clubs, but I much doubt if these supply adequately the needs of the girls. A better type of club is needed, financially independent, with better-educated leaders. In my opinion the work of many clubs is much crippled by their being practically dependent on religious bodies, and hence not free to decide their own policy. There is a lack of helpers with sufficient leisure. The people one wants, i.e. the well-educated, thinking people, are already far too busy to be able to give more time to the club" (Anchor Club, Hoxton). "Further development of existing clubs, greater co-operation in Committee, etc., to avoid clashing and to help where help is needed. Finance is our biggest

problem in Hoxton and overcrowded premises" (Camp Fire, Hoxton). Many leaders remark on financial difficulty and lack of helpers. Many clubs have L.C.C. classes or teachers.

The Shoreditch Federation would appear to be doing good work in co-ordinating clubs in the district. It links up the clubs with the L.C.C. classes and Care Committees (the Federation Headquarters are in an Evening Institute, and the Institute is affiliated to the Federation) and encourages smaller clubs to share accommodation for classes, while there are a number of voluntary helpers giving devoted service. The greatest handicaps would seem to be lack of sufficient helpers and finance, and publicity and appeals outside the area through the Federation (as well as by separate clubs) might help in this respect. Training facilities could be afforded if the East-End Club Institute scheme was carried out (see Poplar).

BETHNAL GREEN

Information from the Warden of St Margaret's House and from questionnaires received from 6 clubs: British Camp Fire Girls (1), G.F.S. (3), G.L.B. (1) and the L.G.C.U. (1).

Organisations.—Workers in the district report that the position is very little changed since the issue of the comprehensive *Handbook of Recreational Facilities* in 1930. The Girl Guides now number 1317, of whom 83 are Guiders, 90 Rangers, 599 Guides, 545 Brownies. There are two Settlements, St Hilda's East, and St Margaret's House, both of which train students, run clubs of all kinds, and are the headquarters of many branches of social work in the district. There are also a branch Settlement, Pilgrim House Settlement, Dace Road, and a large Jewish Girls' Club, besides several missions, Evening Institutes, and a number of church organisations. It is estimated that over 50 per cent. of the organisations are open only once a week.

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—Bethnal Green has a high percentage of the population living in poverty (17·8 per cent.). There is a strong Jewish element in the borough. While there are some new housing estates, overcrowding is still heavy. Victoria Park serves the neighbourhood and provides some games pitches. Social workers report bad home conditions and a great need for after-care work in many parts of the Borough, particularly for girls between 14 and 16. A great proportion of girls (67 per cent. of boys and girls) do not belong to any organisation, and the response to educational facilities is poor (11 per cent.). Most of them work in the needlework trades and in factories (packing).

Co-operation.—There is no Club Federation, J.O.C. or C.S.S. But there would seem to be a good understanding between the clubs and the L.C.C. Care Committees and between Church Clubs, while the Settlements help to co-ordinate other branches of social work. Many leaders are drawn from amongst business girls, particularly those who work in banks.

Needs.—Leaders and trained helpers, particularly Handicrafts and Physical Training Instructors, are urgently needed. Development of existing work would be possible in many cases if premises could be extended. All available halls are usually fully booked up. Holiday homes are also in great demand. All workers report the need for a good mixed club and for Sunday Clubs (run by well-qualified people). There would seem to be room for a Club Federation to link up all the organisations, and to endeavour to

obtain helpers for the smaller clubs, by means of organised publicity and appeals. The Federation should also be able to aid the further development of the work amongst the 14 to 16-year-old girls, which presents a most pressing problem. An active Federation Secretary might be in a position to arrange for the running of a good mixed club with Sunday activities as a joint effort, rather than through separate missions, etc., which are often restricted by the nature of their constitution in the development of such work on their own premises.

Remarks from questionnaires received illustrate some of the difficulties:

"There is not a great demand by the girls for outdoor games. They are usually too tired to want them."

"There is need to attract the 14 to 16-year-old girls." (Mission.)

"Difficult girls are retained in the club by allowing those who only want to dance to do so, and then gradually interesting them in other things. It has taken since 1929 working in various parts of the neighbourhood to become established and to find the best method of work." (G.F.S.)

"Mixed clubs are needed for the modern type of girl from 16-18 years." (G.F.S.)

"14-16 are difficult to hold." (G.F.S.)

"Falling off at 14. On the whole I find girls in our district lack keenness in taking up any subjects but drill and games." (G.L.B. Fourteen over 14, thirty under 14.)

"The type of girl over the age of 15 is difficult and needs much sympathetic understanding. There is need for expansion of the existing clubs and other voluntary organisations under good leadership." (Camp Fire Group.)

STEPNEY

From information received from the Club Union Secretary (Miss Dyer) and from various large clubs and missions, Jewish, Quaker, etc., and Churches. Questionnaires received from units of the G.F.S., G.L.B., F.W.G.C., L.G.C.U., and S.I.U.

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—Stepney is another of the poor and crowded boroughs of London with few open spaces. (Percentage living in poverty, 15.5; living two or more to a room, 36.6.) It has a large Jewish population, concentrated in Whitechapel, and a strong coloured and Eurasian element in Limehouse. The girls are chiefly employed as machinists, and in tobacco, tea, biscuit, soap, and sweet factories, and in a feather mill. Overtime is the chief evil; many young workers are employed from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. and until 4 P.M. on Saturdays for the rush period October to December, after which they are put on short time. Many girls work locally, but the machinists have a twopenny tram ride in very overcrowded trams.

Organisations.—There are 4 open clubs, at least 22 Church clubs, 3 Old Scholars' clubs, 5 Jewish clubs, and various clubs in connection with the Women's Evening Institutes.

Girl Guides¹ total 2142, of which 147 are Guiders, 181 Rangers, 960 Guides, 832 Brownies, 12 Cadet Rangers, and 10 Sea Rangers. There are a J.O.C. and a Club Union (Stepney Association of Girls' Clubs).

¹ It has only been possible to give statistics of Guide companies when the area described coincided with a Guide "District" or "Division."

Details of the 21 clubs, with a membership of 2835, will be found in Tables II. and III.

The clubs affiliated to the Association are invited to combined meetings, socials, lectures, and displays; inter-club visiting is encouraged. It is possible to hire L.C.C. premises and the Town Hall for displays, etc., and 2 large clubs will lend their halls free. There are very few L.C.C. hockey pitches and tennis courts. School playgrounds are free for girls under 18. Some business firms have good sports grounds outside the borough, and provide transport for their employees to enable them to make good use of games facilities. Helpers come from outside in most cases, and are mostly from Toc H League of Women Helpers, colleges, and Old Girls' Societies of Schools, and leisured women not belonging to any organisation. Several of the larger clubs are willing to undertake the training of leaders. Three districts in the borough are in particular need of "open" clubs: (a) the district east of the Tower and west of Shadwell; (b) the district to the south-east of St Dunstan's; (c) Whitechapel.

Holiday homes, playing fields, premises, the right type of helper, are all needed. There is a great need for open clubs willing to admit girls *before* they leave school, at 13½, so that they may feel at home in a club when they have to face the big change from school to work.

Many young workers, 14-16, are too tired to want to follow a regular course of further education on leaving school, but will take up classes in the club, especially if these can be of varied types, and for one hour instead of two hours, thus giving time for rest and recreation in the evening. The following remarks are taken from the questionnaires:

"The majority of girls leaving school in this area have no connection with any organisation. There is a need for more elasticity in L.C.C. regulations *re* classes. There is a senior club entirely organised by the girls themselves—they are very keen indeed." (L.C.C. Evening Institute Club.)

"We require help (voluntary) for the club side of the work for juniors—day-school leavers. There is a falling-off in membership of the school leavers." (Evening Institute.)

"Consider the needs of Jewish girls are met. There is need for a club for non-Jewish girls." (Jewish Club.)

"Further development of old clubs and greater co-ordination. More mixed activities. Helpers of the right type. There is a need to train Jewish girls in citizenship, and to be less ostentatious. The developed girl, about 15 years, seeks more companionship with boys than can be given at the club." (Jewish Club Settlements. About one hundred and eighty girls over 14.)

"Need for clubs for members 18 and over who have never joined a club."

"More clubs are needed. Greater co-ordination." (Open Club, Shadwell. Over two hundred girls over 14.)

"13-15 is the most difficult period for holding girls. Many girls think they are too old for clubs at 14. If they are not keenly interested at the age of 13-14 they are almost impossible to hold." (G.L.B., E. 3.)

"The need is for clubs to attract girls who are of too low a mental stratum to be attracted by educational facilities." (G.L.B., E. 1.)

"Fine active work, such as drilling, country dancing, etc., suits the girls of our district, although most of them, after leaving school, go to factories." (G.L.B., E. 1.)

"There is a very active branch of G.F.S. at work in the district. This

includes all ages, therefore our Old Scholars' Club works amongst those who are not members of the G.F.S. (Old Scholars, Limehouse.)

Most of the clubs state they are in need of funds and helpers. The questionnaires have been quoted rather fully to give an idea of the conditions of the district, and the difficulties with which the club leaders have to cope.

It would appear that the Association does much to help its own clubs, but there is a lack of co-ordination amongst the many Church and other clubs which are not affiliated. There is a need for greater publicity for the Association locally, and also for publicity outside the area, to obtain helpers and funds for the development of the work, especially for mixed and open clubs. A fund, administered through a local committee, which would enable such clubs to be started in the three districts which need them most, appears to be an urgent need, as the district is too poor for money to be raised locally, and, naturally, subscribers to missions and churches expect their money to be used for work amongst the particular group served by their organisation.

POPLAR

General investigation made, and the bulk of the material collected by Miss Joan Nicholson (late resident at the Poplar Presbyterian Settlement).

Details of areas sent in by the wardens of St Mildred's Settlement, Isle of Dogs, and the Presbyterian Settlement, S. Poplar. Co-operation from Kingsley Hall, Bow and Bromley, and the Settlement of the Holy Child, Poplar.

Questionnaires received from Camp Fire Girls (1 unit), F.W.G.C. (5 units), G.F.S. (2 units), G.L.B. (2 units), and an unaffiliated club.

Total membership, 1027. Of the 11 units only 3 were open three or more nights per week, only 1 on Sunday.

Girl Guides total 2432 (Guiders 165, Rangers 205, Guides 1144, Brownies 918).

(Settlements, etc., will be described under each section.)

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—Poplar has the highest percentage of people living in poverty (24.1). The borough contains some very congested areas and some new housing estates. The male population is largely engaged in casual dock work, and the girls work in factories locally and farther afield, and as machinists and in restaurant work outside the borough; some of the better educated are employed in offices and shops in town. There is a coloured and Eurasian element, especially in South Poplar (Poplar High Street area).

The borough is large and unwieldy, and would seem to fall naturally into three divisions: (a) Bow and Bromley (North Poplar); (b) South Poplar (excluding the Isle of Dogs); (c) the Isle of Dogs (Millwall and Cubitt Town).

(a) BOW AND BROMLEY (NORTH POPLAR)

Has 4 centres run on settlement lines. Kingsley Hall and Children's House are independent of any other organisation, and run on experimental lines. There is a Camp Fire group in connection with Children's House, and large clubs (fathers', mothers', boys', girls', mixed) are run in connection with the centres. The whole organisation is run as a community centre, and plays its part in the life of the locality. It aims at being "run by" instead of "for" the local people. There is a very young staff.

Fern Street Settlement was started by a mistress in a local school in a small house for children in the immediate district. The work has now expanded, but is still mainly for schoolchildren.

Francis Mary Buss Settlement, with a resident leader, is run with the support of public schools to provide open clubs for girls.

There are several large missions all running girls' clubs, and, in most cases, mixed activities. There are also several social clubs, while Messrs Bryant and May run clubs for their own employees.

(b) SOUTH POPLAR (excluding Millwall)

South Poplar is without open spaces, except for some small recreation grounds which have few games facilities. Millwall recreation ground is more accessible than Victoria Park. It is an overcrowded area, largely of casual workers. Transport is very difficult (crowded buses and trams in the rush hours).

Settlements :

1. The Presbyterian. Open clubs for all ages and "mixed"—hampered by small premises—L.C.C. classes for club members compulsory till 18 (Settlement pays fees for all club members), W.E.A. classes for older members.

2. The Holy Child. R.C. Serves the Catholic population (also works in Limehouse). Run in connection with a Catholic school and supported by Old Girls' Societies ; large clubs for girls of 14 and over—some mixed clubs ; L.C.C. classes for mothers and younger members.

There are several large missions in South Poplar with varied activities, and there are many Church Guilds, etc. A mission works amongst the Chinese and mixed population, and there is a club for Anglo-Chinese (mixed).

Most Settlements have their own holiday homes. Apart from the provision by the Settlements, no open club is known in South Poplar. It is estimated that two-thirds of the school leavers are attached to no youth organisation, and no one organisation has adequate premises to allot a permanent room to a girls' club ; there are too many activities on the same premises.

(c) THE ISLE OF DOGS (MILLWALL AND CUBITT TOWN)

This is a very isolated district. City workers are liable to be "bridged" (which means a long wait before buses can proceed). Housing has been very bad, but L.C.C. flats are relieving the congestion. The island has its own factories, and many girls go to Town to work, but on the whole the area looks across the river to Greenwich for its social and recreational life. Greenwich Park and Blackheath are its playgrounds, and it has its own recreation ground for games.

Settlements :

1. St Mildred's House. Girls' clubs and library clubs for all sections.
2. Dockland Girls' Club. Clubs for all sections.

There are also some Church clubs and an L.C.C. Old Girls' Netball Club. Otherwise there are no sports clubs or dramatic or choral societies. (None of the factories has a club.)

Co-operation.—There is a great lack of co-ordination and co-operation in the borough, especially amongst Church and Mission organisations. The leaders do their best to keep in touch with each other in many cases, but owing to the absence of any leisured class in the district, every worker has to do far too much committee work, and lacks time to follow up suggestions. There is no time for the clerical work involved in running a Club Federation, J.O.C. or C.S.S., although the need for such organisations is appreciated.

Leaders.—All find it difficult to get helpers or expert teachers from Central London, and all must rely on their own residents to carry on the club work, largely in isolation from the rest of London. There is also a good nucleus of willing helpers amongst the more responsible Rangers and club members, especially those who are members of churches, and help with activities such as Sunday Schools, play hours, Guides, Brownies, etc., But they need a wider background and opportunity for interchange of ideas.

Accommodation.—All clubs are hampered by lack of adequate premises, and many are forced to share with other organisations. Some partially solve the difficulty of arranging handicrafts and physical training classes by co-operating with the local Evening Institute. But this does not solve the problem, and rehearsals, displays, etc., are almost out of the question.

Scheme for Development.—It is suggested (Miss J. K. Nicholson) that a Club Institute should be provided (*cf.* Islington) with special facilities for administrative work. It would seem essential to have a daytime clerical organiser and a resident club organiser. The clerical organiser would be qualified to undertake the supervision of social science students for visiting and after-care work, on Care Committee lines, and she would be responsible for the organisation of a Club Federation and possibly a J.O.C., and for the running of an information bureau for all clubs, whether affiliated or not. The bureau would thus act as a clearing house of information for all statutory and voluntary organisations. The club organiser would arrange courses and demonstrations of handicrafts and physical training, and she would aim at training local girls as leaders, and would visit clubs as well as give courses at the Centre. The Club Institute would have a large hall, other rooms for classes, office accommodation, possibly one or two rooms for visitors (teachers and other workers in the area have a great difficulty in finding suitable accommodation), a reference and lending library for all branches of club and social work, and a comfortable rest-room open for girls who wanted to meet leaders, to enquire about clubs, or to discuss club matters informally, either as club members or helpers. Co-operation with the Poplar libraries would be encouraged, and they would probably be prepared to supply boxes of books for fixed periods.

The local authorities are very willing to co-operate, and it should be possible to obtain grants and concessions from various bodies represented in the area. A certain revenue would also accrue from the letting of rooms to outside clubs for occasional activities for which they have not space, but the aim should be always to have rooms free for general purposes. The Institute could also aid the development of new "open" clubs, through the Federation and in co-operation with local bodies, but it would not seem desirable to have a club in connection with the Institute.

A building in the neighbourhood of Burdett Road (South Poplar end) would be central for all parts of the borough, and accessible for those coming from the City, Stepney, Mile End, etc.

NOTE.—A survey is being made, through the Presbyterian Settlement, of the area around East India Dock where the population of Bow Creek is shortly to be rehoused, on the site of a L.C.C. School. The survey is being made with a view to drafting the newcomers into existing clubs and other organisations, and finding whether there is a need for a special club for them.

A site has been secured for the building of a Centre for club work (Poplar Men's Social and Educational Institute, High Street), and it is hoped to start the building very shortly. This building will have a large hall, classrooms, etc., and it might be possible to have co-operation with the proposed Girls' Institute, e.g. use of part of the premises of Men's Institute, at any rate as a temporary measure.

NORTHERN DISTRICT

ISLINGTON

From information received from the L.C.C. Care Committee Organiser, the Head of an Evening Institute, and the Club Leader of the Elizabeth Whitelaw Reid Club.

From questionnaires received from 1 unit of the British Camp Fire Girls, 6 units of the F.W.G.C., 2 units of the G.F.S., 5 units of the G.L.B., 2 units of the London Girls' Club Union, and 1 unit of each of the London Diocesan Girls' Fellowship, the Social Institutes' Union, and the Y.W.C.A. Of the total of 19 clubs, 4 open on three nights or more, 3 on two nights, and 12 on one night; 4 open on Sunday. Club membership totals 1622, divided fairly equally between age-groups of under 14, 14 to 18, and 18 and over.

Girl Guides, total 1679 (Guiders 122, Rangers 139, Guides 819, Brownies 585, Cadet Rangers 14).

There is a club for wardmaids at the Royal Northern Hospital and a club for Old Girls from the M.D. School at Colebrook Row (situated in Finsbury but serving many girls from Islington). The Northampton Guild has a club on the Northampton estate at Canonbury. Much work is also done by large Missions run on Settlement lines and there are several Church clubs, while some of the factories run their own clubs.

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—Islington is a very unwieldy district, with many neighbourhoods which were once prosperous but have gone down steadily, as the former residents moved further out. There is a considerable amount of overcrowding and bad housing, with some better neighbourhoods towards the north. There are few open spaces; Highbury Fields are used for games, and the Foundling Site in Bloomsbury for girls under 18, but these facilities are very slight for a borough of 3000 acres and a population of 321,000.

Some girls from the better districts work in Town, many of the others are in factories (cigarettes, boots, and dressmaking firms) and shops, and there are maids in the residential areas.

Co-operation.—There is no club Federation, and no C.S.S. Attempts have been made to start the J.O.C. afresh, but there is only a corresponding secretary at present. There is co-operation between clubs and School Care Committees. The C.O.S., J.A.C. and Care Committee workers were mentioned appreciatively. The L.C.C. Evening Institutes run club classes for several of the clubs and missions, and there seem to be attempts at co-operation

between organisations situated in fairly close proximity. But there is no body to which application can be made for details of the work done in the borough as a whole. Nearly all the workers are either very busy salaried social workers who have to devote themselves first and foremost to the particular job for which they have been engaged, or voluntary workers and social science students living outside the area.

It is not possible for them to do the extra work involved, keeping track of school leavers, or keeping in touch with club leaders. The Head of a Women's Evening Institute said that a great many of the girls in her area were in blind-alley jobs and had long hours of work. The staff had not the time to visit girls who did not continue their classes and did not respond to cards of reminder. The clubs, of course, kept track of their members, but other girls were outside any organisation at the time when they most needed help, *i.e.* at 16, when they entered into insurance and were liable to be dismissed to make room for younger uninsured workers. She had suggested to the Care Committee workers that they should form some kind of after-care committee for these cases, but though they agreed as to the need, they could not spare the time.

Another great drawback is the lack of any training centre for club leaders and helpers in the Islington area. There are many senior club girls and outside helpers who are greatly in need of training classes in handwork, physical training, and general club methods within easy reach of their homes, and adapted to the needs of their district.

There is no central building for club meetings and displays, except the Town Hall, and the halls belonging to the various missions, etc.

The chief needs of the district seem therefore to be, co-operation and co-ordination, training of workers, after-care work with school leavers, and development of existing clubs to attract the rougher type of girl who needs skilled leadership and varied activities.

The solution proposed is the founding of a club centre, in charge of a trained club organiser. It would need a large hall for displays, rooms for classes of all kinds, and if possible enough ground for netball practice, at least. This should not have any clubs of its own but should afford facilities for leaders to bring their own members up for demonstration classes, and possibly provide accommodation for dramatic groups, and other activities for church clubs, which can only use their own premises one night a week. Small clubs which cannot make up the numbers for L.C.C. classes might combine for classes with an L.C.C. teacher at the Centre.

A club workers' reference library and reading-room, and a rest-room open for any girls who liked to make use of it at odd times, would add to the usefulness of the centre.

This Institute would serve as the Headquarters for a Local Federation of Girls' Clubs, and also, if possible, for a J.O.C. and C.S.S.

After-Care work might be organised with the help of students and other voluntary workers as in the case of Care Committee offices, and a good system of registration of all youth groups, whether affiliated to a local Federation or not, would make the centre a most useful source of information concerning voluntary and statutory organisations.

It should be possible to gain the support of various public and philanthropic bodies for such a scheme if it were carried out with the co-operation of all local organisations, and it might be feasible to link it up with a scheme

for providing the borough with an open space in Holloway for which an appeal was made recently in the *Daily Telegraph*.

Selections from Questionnaires.—"A fairly large percentage attend evening classes till they are about 16, and a very small percentage attend our club (open) or the church clubs, but the large majority hang about the streets or go to the pictures. New clubs and greater co-ordination needed, especially between the evening class instructors and club leaders, and development to reach and hold the poorer and rougher type of girls in the district. There is co-operation with School-Care and After-Care Committees." (N. 1. Barnesbury.)

"The girls most needing help cannot be induced to join, with a few exceptions." (Club run through church, N.1.)

"If we had efficient helpers we could greatly increase the usefulness of our club . . . the parish is extremely poor, and although we have many willing helpers, there are none very competent and they certainly could not take a lead. We feel far more could be done but for this handicap." (N. 7. Church Sister's remarks. About fifty over 14 in club.)

"We have a wonderful crowd of voluntary helpers, and to this we owe any success we have had in our girls' club." (N. 1. Mission, one hundred and twenty over 14.)

One small club (Crouch Hill) caters especially for maids and is anxious to be brought in touch with any fresh ones coming into the North London district.

The general concensus of opinion seems to be that work is hampered by lack of co-ordination, and of trained helpers, the latter being much needed in many districts.

FINSBURY

From information received from Miss Fox, Leader at the Northampton Guild, and others.

From questionnaires received from 4 units of the F.W.G.C. (including one affiliated to the L.G.C.U.) and 1 unit of the G.L.B.

F.W.G.C. includes the Peel Institute (Society of Friends) which has started a mixed senior club, and the Northampton Guild for tenants on the Northampton Estate. 3 are open 3 nights or more per week (1 on Sundays).

Total membership of the 5 clubs is 609.

Girl Guides, total 1001 (Guiders (all ranks) 73, Rangers 105, Guides 425, and Brownies 398).

There are also several Church Fellowships and some missions.

(N.B.—The Leysian Mission which serves Shoreditch as well as Finsbury.)

A club for mentally defective girls (mentioned in the Islington section) is situated in Finsbury.

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—Some bad housing areas and some new housing estates—few open spaces.

The neighbourhood has gone down, and the introduction of factory methods has changed the position of many families whose parents and grandparents were engaged as independent handworkers in the watch and clock and similar trades. The grandchildren are factory workers, but still retain some of their old tradition and background in contrast with the general run of unskilled workers. The girls work as machinists, and in paper-bag, leather, wireless, and electrical accessories, box and cigarette factories and works. Some are

engaged in offices and shops. In some cases families from very poor housing areas outside the borough are being brought in to the houses left vacant by local families who are moving further out. This is happening in particular on the Marquess of Northampton Housing Estate, where families are being moved to a similar estate in Canonbury.

Co-operation.—There is no Club Federation, no J.O.C., and no C.S.S. There is co-operation between clubs and local Care Committees with regard to school leavers, and good work is done by the J.A.C., which has a list of juvenile organisations and tries to put girls in touch with the clubs. There is some co-operation with L.C.C. Evening Institutes, and from time to time a sports meeting is arranged, through the Bath Street Evening Institute, with local clubs ("The Finsbury Girls' Sports").

On the other hand, there is a great deal of overlapping, especially with the younger members, who sometimes belong to three or four organisations, with the result that they feel no loyalty towards any of them, and drift away at 14. Another result of this overlapping is that clubs have fairly good membership, and it looks on paper as though the needs of the district are being met, when the fact is that the same girls are being catered for several times, while many of those in need of club facilities are untouched, and the real problem is unsolved. It seems likely that there will be an increase of the rougher type of girl in the district, and efficient workers and modern methods will be needed if clubs are to attract them. The fact that Finsbury, unlike Islington, has only a small proportion of better-off residents increases the difficulty of finding workers.

The solution would seem to be the same as for Islington—the provision of a Club Institute and Centre—and it should be possible for the one Centre to serve the needs of both boroughs. The Centre would provide training facilities, accommodation for displays, etc., an office for linking up local organisations, and a Headquarters for a Club Federation, and possibly a J.O.C. and C.S.S. (see Islington Section). As so many of the clubs serve both Islington and Finsbury, it might be possible to have a joint Federation, or, alternatively, separate bodies working side by side. Workers for Finsbury might be recruited from districts outside the borough by means of appeals and publicity.

The following remarks are taken from the questionnaires received :

"Further development of existing clubs would help. Supply of teachers for various handicrafts, also classes where leaders could learn new work—at reasonable price and hours." "Great lack of playing fields and voluntary instructors. Further development of present clubs needed." "Helpers needed."

HACKNEY AND STOKE NEWINGTON

Information from seven questionnaires (units of G.F.S., G.L.B., L.G.C.U.).

Hackney (East) and Stoke Newington (North) are considered together, as they have a joint Council of Social Service.

Hackney has poor districts, with some better housing. Stoke Newington has a larger residential area. The area is served by Victoria Park, Hackney Downs, and Hackney Marsh.

The girls are employed either locally or in Town, in factories, offices,

shops and dressmaking. There are also many in domestic service in the residential areas.

Two of the clubs mentioned above are "open" clubs. The total membership of the 7 clubs is 616. 6 clubs are open two nights weekly, 1 one night; none meets on Sunday as a club. There are also Church and Mission clubs, a branch of the C.A.W.G., and an "open" club (S.I.U.) for factory girls and maids, which opens on Sundays.

In Hackney there are Church and Mission clubs, and a Jewish Girls' club, and 2 maids' clubs, 1 of which is run through a Church, but is open to all, the other being an "open" club run by the Alliance of Honour and open on Sundays. There are also 3 "open" (L.G.C.U.) clubs, 1 of them run by the Pedro Street Settlement.

There is co-operation through the Hackney and Stoke Newington Council of Social Service, but there is no J.O.C. or Club Federation. There would seem to be a fair number of organisations of all kinds, but one club leader states that there is a need for more "open" clubs in Hackney. The "open" club for maids and factory workers was started in Stoke Newington through the S.I.U. to meet the needs of the district. There appear to be no "mixed" clubs in either district, though some of the Churches have successful "mixed" Fellowships.

CITY AREA

From information received from social workers and from questionnaires sent in by F.W.G.C., Girls' Guildry, G.L.B., and London Diocesan Girls' Fellowship.

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—This area has two types of resident population, those in business, or acting as caretakers, and the poorer workers on the borders of Finsbury and Stepney. There is also a large daytime population working in shops, offices, warehouses, restaurants, etc. There are few open spaces of any kind.

Facilities and Needs.—Three of the City Churches have "dinner-hour clubs," (2 of which are "mixed"), and all have daytime organisations for the City workers. The League of Help is the binding link between the Churches. It appeals for voluntary workers, organises the various Church guilds and societies, and in many ways acts as a Council of Social Service. Every member is pledged to help with one or more of the activities.

The St Bride Foundation Institute, off Fleet Street, was originally founded to provide classes for young printers, but it is now open to all and has a very large membership. It has a swimming bath, large lending, reference and technical libraries, and a refreshment room. The Institute owns playing grounds at Blackheath Park, and has a Rowing Club at Hammersmith. Members have clubs for all kinds of hobbies and sports, indoor and outdoor; there are a Fleet Street Parliament, University Extension Classes, etc., etc., and an annual festival of Literature and the Arts, "the City of London Eisteddfod." There is also a "City Women's Club." These organisations are mainly for those working in offices, or in the printing trades. Nearer to the East End there are several missions, serving the resident population and girls working in warehouses and shops in the neighbourhood. One of these, the Welcome Mission, runs a restaurant for workers, in addition to many clubs, Bible Classes, a dispensary, etc. It receives help from many of the City firms and Livery Companies.

The Girl Guides in the City Division number 491 (39 Guiders, 63 Rangers, 190 Guides, 187 Brownies and 12 Sea Rangers).

It appears that a great deal is done for workers in the City, many of whom do not belong to any organisations in their home districts. As there is no Club Federation, J.O.C., or C.S.S., a modified form of Club Union or Council of Social Service linking up organisations in Holborn and the City, in conjunction with the League of Help, would facilitate development of the smaller organisations, and prevent overlapping. It would also serve to put lonely girls in touch with clubs and other activities in the district where they live.

The greatest hindrance to social work is, according to the League of Help, the high rent of premises in the City, insecurity of tenure, and lack of accommodation.

WEST-CENTRAL AREA

HOLBORN

From interviews with various social workers and from questionnaires received from G.F.S. (1), G.L.B. (1), L.G.C.U. (2), S.I.U. (2), Y.W.C.A. (1). Of these 7 clubs 5 are open on two or more nights a week and 2 open on Sundays. Membership totals 3340. Girl Guides total 657 (39 Guiders, 59 Rangers, 286 Guides, and 273 Brownies).

The Central Y.W.C.A. in Great Russell Street runs clubs and activities of all kinds, but most of the members come from outside the borough, although some of them are in rooms in the neighbourhood, and many girls working locally make use of the restaurant. The S.I.U. has a Social club at its Headquarters in Portugal Street, where there is also a restaurant. There is a large Club—the West Central—for Jewish Girls. There are also various Church clubs which cater for the girls resident in their parishes, and many of the churches have lunch-hour lectures, music, etc., for girl workers.

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—There is a small permanently resident population, mostly in business locally or acting as caretakers for business premises. Many girls from other parts are employed in shops, offices, warehouses, street markets during the day; there are also many girls employed in hotels and boarding-houses on the north side of the borough and students and clerical workers in lodgings in Bloomsbury. Girls in street trading have very long hours.

No open spaces, apart from school playgrounds, church grounds, and small public gardens; Lincoln's Inn Fields offers some facilities for games, and the Foundling Site in Bloomsbury can be used by girls under 18.

Facilities and Needs.—There is no Club Federation, J.O.C., or C.S.S. in Holborn, and it appears from the questionnaires that there is a lack of helpers; there is need for an all-day club for hotel workers with irregular hours. (These would come within the St Pancras scheme.) One club leader remarks that small, irresponsible clubs are started by young people, and generally fail after a short period. She also states that there is a movement towards mixed clubs.

The district seems to be fairly well provided with organisations (apart from a club for hotel workers). The smaller clubs would probably benefit by co-ordination. A Club Union or modified Council of Social Service for Holborn and the City, linking up church lunch-hour and evening activities,

would make it possible to combine resources for L.C.C. classes, games, country excursions, etc. where clubs are handicapped by small membership, or lack of helpers. (One difficulty is that City and Holborn are two separate deaneries.) Lonely girls could also be put in touch, through the Union, with clubs and other organisations in the district in which they live.

Failing this, if the St Pancras Federation is able to develop as has been proposed, the Bloomsbury district of Holborn might be included in this Federation as so many of the girl residents are hotel workers.

NORTH-WESTERN AREA

HAMPSTEAD, ST MARYLEBONE, AND ST PANCRAS

(Kilburn is included with Hampstead, and St Marylebone is taken in the N.-W. area even though part is in the W. 1. postal area.)

HAMPSTEAD

From information received from the London Council of Social Service and from questionnaires from units of Camp Fire Girls (1), G.F.S. (5), and G.L.B. (2).

All but one meet on one night a week only (the other, a G.L.B., meets on two nights). Only 1 opens on Sunday (G.F.S.). There are in addition 2 Y.W.C.A. centres, and a Domestic Workers' Guild (open, with self-government as its keynote) in the N.W. 3 district. The Hampstead Institute of Preventive Hygiene and Social Welfare is the headquarters of the Quex Girls' Club and the Kilburnian Girls' Club, and the Wayfarers' Sunday Association has a centre there. There are also a Young Wives' Club and branches of the British Women's Patriotic League and of the Good Templars, all of which meet regularly for social intercourse at the Hampstead Institute.

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—This is a district with a large residential area where there is a tradition of civic responsibility. It is more of a self-contained community than a "dormitory" suburb, while there are ample open spaces, and much of the housing is new. There are also poorer and crowded districts. Many of the girl residents work in offices and shops in London, others are employed locally, but a very large number are in domestic service.

Co-operation.—There are a J.O.C. and a Council of Social Welfare, but no Club Union at present. The C.S.W. takes in organisations in Kilburn, Primrose Hill, Gospel Oak, etc. and has representatives of every type of public and voluntary social service, recreational and educational bodies, etc. It runs a "Festival of Youth," with Club competitions or displays.

Its Educational Council consisting of teachers, school authorities and parents, keeps in close touch with the L.E.A.; its Christian Social Group (affiliated to the Christian Social Council) formed "to serve the spiritual foundation of social work," organises lectures, addresses and public meetings, and undertakes the recruitment of social workers from the Churches. It would seem that the C.S.W. is a centre which is doing useful work in co-ordinating local activities and keeping the needs of the district before the eyes of the public. It has the great advantage of having adequate premises which can be used as the headquarters of a variety of organisations.

ST MARYLEBONE

From a brief survey by the Federation Secretary and from questionnaires received from 11 clubs (F.W.G.C. (3), G.F.S. (5), Girl Guides (1), G.L.B. (1), S.I.U. (1)).

Membership of the Federation (1933-34) is shown by the following Table [Withdrew from affiliation at end of year—not included in Tables II. and III.]

Type of Club	Total No. of Clubs	Membership in Age-Groups			Total Membership
		Under 14	14-18	Over 18	
G.F.S.	2	—	—	78	78
Girl Guides	5	62	47	9	118
Church Clubs	2)	49	70	120	239
Other Clubs	2)				
Totals	11	111	117	207	435

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—There is a fluctuating population of flat-dwellers, visitors in hotels and boarding-houses, besides more permanent residents. The total population (197,620 in 1931) showed a decrease of 6500 since 1921, and of over 36,000 from 1901. This steady decline is affecting the character of the borough, and is probably due to the demolition of many small houses and an increase in the number of business houses and flats. The poorer districts are situated, one at the eastern end of the borough, another, the largest, in the Lisson Grove area, and a third in the Portland Town district. Home conditions are bad in some of these districts. Regent's Park and Hyde Park serve the area on the North and South respectively, but clubs report a great difficulty in getting playing fields.

Many of the girls are employed in the City or West End, or as maids in the borough.

Co-operation.—There is a C.S.S. and a Club Federation, but the club secretary reports that there is little co-operation. Extracts from questionnaires received from three G.F.S. leaders point to some of the difficulties of this area :

"There are so many things going on in Parish and neighbourhood that the girls have no time for all. . . . The neighbourhood has changed and many of our members have migrated to the suburbs and cannot attend regularly." (W. 1.) Another, whose club caters for all types and ages, with "early" classes for maids and younger members and "late" for other workers, reports varied activities—drama, elocution, choir, etc., and older members help with social work. "The Club is open for maids for tea at 5 P.M. Work is greatly handicapped by lack of accommodation, but no other premises can be found, though funds would be forthcoming." (W. 1.)

Another states : "The girls are well catered for in the district. It is only possible to keep the smarter type of girl by having very efficiently run organisations. There is a lack of helpers." (W. 1.)

Another Leader urges the great need for co-ordination everywhere. The Federation Secretary stresses the need for "open" clubs and maids' clubs.

From the above statements it appears that the organisations are fully aware of the needs of the area, but leaders are hampered by the lack of any co-ordinating centre such as a Settlement, or Club Institute. Many of the girls are probably well catered for through other organisations outside the borough, and the proximity of the West End adds to the difficulties of the work.

ST PANCRAS

Memorandum and Schemes for development submitted by Miss Beaumont (Union Secretary) and questionnaires received from 25 clubs.

The Borough of St Pancras is, roughly, 4 miles long and 1 mile wide for the whole of its length.

The northern district includes a good residential part of Highgate, and part of the western side includes a good residential area of Regent's Park.

Kentish Town, Camden Town and Somers Town, where the average number of persons per acre is over 90, consists mainly of poor houses in mean streets, with overcrowding and a strong tendency to bad conditions, and areas in which very bad conditions have been dealt with, and new blocks of flats have been and are still being built by the St Pancras House Improvement Society, the L.C.C. and the Borough Council.

In the southern part of the borough there are three main line railway stations—Euston, St Pancras and King's Cross—and round these and over the whole of the Bloomsbury area are very large numbers of hotels and boarding-houses of every size and type, employing immense numbers of young women and girls.

There are 2 L.C.C. Evening Institutes in the borough (and a third on the border, drawing mostly from Islington), and there are about 16 "open" and Church clubs of different sizes and types which are open to girls of 14 and upwards.

At the present moment there are 167 girls from 14 to 16 years of age in the 2 Evening Institutes, and under 120 of that age in all the clubs, making a total of under 300 in all.

During the year ending March 31st, 1934, about 1014 girls left the elementary and Church schools in the borough. That number is likely to be about doubled during the current year, but there is little indication of much increase in the number of junior admissions to Institutes or clubs (Guides, G.L.B. and G.F.S. branches are not included). Whatever may be the result of "Insurance for children," more guidance is needed for the evening leisure hours of girls from 14 to 16, especially those from the poorest homes and the roughest and lowest paid work. This need is greatest in the Kentish Town area, where there are the fewest clubs of any sort, and no general "open" club (see Scheme I.).

The southern part of the borough is fairly well provided with clubs of various kinds, including "open" clubs, for the working girls of all types living at home.

The special need of the whole of the Bloomsbury area (part of which is in the Borough of Holborn) is some provision for the enormous number of women and girls employed in the hotels and boarding-houses who have very varying hours off duty, and nowhere to spend their leisure time except in the streets, or such places of amusement as they can pay for (see Scheme II.).

SCHEME I

An "open" club in the Kentish Town and Camden Town district, mainly for *young* girls from poor homes and rough and poorly-paid work, who are not easily drawn into clubs or organisations of any sort, but who are attracted by movement, excitement, and boys. Members to be admitted between 14 and 16 years of age, and not normally kept over 18-20. One aim of the club to be to draft them on when suitable to Evening Institutes for continued education, and to existing clubs for social and religious interests. Some method of opening on Sundays, with simple services and talks, would be very valuable. The club would need to be open at least three or four nights a week, under skilled and experienced leadership; and some "mixed" activities (choral and dramatic (?)) and socials would probably be an advantage.

Finance would be a difficulty, as no sources, and no suitable premises, present themselves. A house might be adapted for homely but attractive premises on not too large a scale to begin with as long as there could be space to work off energies for the lively members, and, to quote an experienced club leader, "a room for these youngsters who are too tired after unaccustomed long hours of work to take part in organised games or classes, where they could have plenty of *strong* comfy chairs, with the *constant* presence of an adult wise enough to exercise control without effort, and to give sympathy and understanding, as many of these girls can be led to talk very sensibly when they can relax physically and have comfort."

SCHEME II

A club on a large scale for women and girls employed in the very large number of hotels and boarding-houses in the south of the borough and adjacent district. This would need to be open afternoons and evenings practically every day, including Sundays, as hours off duty are so varied.

Rest-rooms, a library, a canteen, a large recreation room, and rooms for classes at varied hours would be required, and some cheap cubicles where girls turned off at a moment's notice (often done, for no faults) could stay for a few nights. A large house in a Bloomsbury square or street might be adapted.

The initial expense would be considerable, but a suggestion of this need has now come from a hotel in the district, and others might be interested and induced to subscribe towards the annual expenses, which could not be covered by the members' fees.

The hotels and boarding-houses are of every size and type, and the women and girls come from long distances, and often from poor homes, and have no friends in London.

This scheme is strongly approved by the Central Council for the Welfare of Women and Girls, who realise the need for it.

It would be impossible to carry out either of these much-needed schemes without organisation and financial help. The Federation Committee, as such, could not undertake the responsibility without a considerable amount of experienced help.

The needs of the boys and young men are probably as great as the girls and young women, and might well be taken into consideration as well.

Details of the 18 clubs in the Federation with a membership of 891 will be found in Tables II. and III. In addition, Rangers number 186, Guides 999 and Brownies 845.

NOTE BY M. ROOFF

We understand that there is a great possibility of the establishment of an "open" club, under the guidance of a trained salaried leader, in the neighbourhood of Russell Square. It would be available for the hotel and boarding-house workers (if they were free then) in the afternoons and evenings. It is planned to secure premises which would provide for a men's club in the basement (with separate entrance), a girls' club which would be accommodated on two floors, while the ground floor would provide a large room for drill, dancing, etc. A rest-room, dressing-room, wardrobe room, and kitchen, etc., would also be provided. If such a club were available, Scheme II. might be modified.

WESTERN AREA

HAMMERSMITH

From information received from Bishop Creighton House Settlement and others, and from questionnaires from units of C.A.W.G., G.F.S., G.L.B. (3), London Diocesan Girls' Fellowship, and an "open" club; a total membership of 375 in the 7 clubs, of which the majority are in the under 14 age-group and the least in the 14-18 group.

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—Although the average percentage of poverty and of overcrowding is less than in the eastern boroughs, there are some poor and congested areas, as well as better residential areas. There is a lack of open spaces in the borough. While many girls are employed locally in domestic service, factories and shops, many work in offices and shops in the City and West End.

Facilities and Needs.—There is no Club Union, and the cessation of the J.O.C. and C.S.S. has necessarily led to lack of co-ordination between the various voluntary organisations. The revival of one or more of these bodies and the formation of a Club Union would do much to improve matters in this respect. Remarks from questionnaires illustrate these needs.

"The very poor factory girl will not mix with other girls." "A Hostel for working girls is very badly needed in the district." (Hammersmith Road.) "More co-operation needed between the various girls' clubs and organisations, also with the L.C.C. for getting into touch with school leavers." (Shepherd's Bush Road.)

KENSINGTON

From questionnaires received from 16 clubs (Kensington Federation (8), F.W.G.C. (and K.F.) (3), G.F.S. (and K.F.) (4), G.L.B. (and K.F.) (1), Y.W.C.A. (2), Others (2)) and from interviews with social workers in the district.

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—This is a very varied area, the northern districts containing some very poor neighbourhoods, while the southern and western, although they have some poorer districts, are mostly residential in character. They include new housing estates (working-class), and bad and crowded housing.

Facilities for outdoor recreation are available in certain districts; some are near to Kensington Gardens; games pitches are available at Wormwood Scrubs, at a charge.

Many of the girls in the borough are students, or are employed in shops and offices in the City and West End, or in stores and shops in the borough.

Many of those in the poorer districts are factory workers, and there are a large number of domestic servants and hotel workers employed. The Kensington Federation of Girls' Clubs (Secretary, Miss Wrigley) has 16 clubs affiliated, with a total membership of 700. (See Tables II. and III.)

The West London Division of the Girl Guides (including Kensington and Notting Hill) has a total membership of 1900, of which 168 are Guiders, 243 Rangers, 785 Guides, 627 Brownies, 13 Cadet Rangers, and 64 Sea Rangers.

Two organisations, the "Quest" in Clarendon Road, W. 11, and the "Venture" in the Portobello Road, W. 11, run many activities on Settlement lines. There are two Y.W.C.A. Centres (Earl's Court and Brompton Square) open daily and on Sundays, and catering mostly for maids. Clubs for girls are run by the Harrow and Rugby Missions; there is a club for Jewish girls, and the Magnet Club for girls from the provinces in domestic service, etc., in the borough. This was started through the C.S.S. at the request of the Juvenile Employment Exchange in South Kensington.

A Community Centre is being built, through the C.S.S., in Dalgarno Gardens, North Kensington, to serve the new housing estates.

The following remarks are taken from questionnaires received :

"The organisations in Kensington are very fairly adequate for its needs, but the club side might well be more encouraged by employers of domestic servants. There is a need for greater co-operation between employers and club leaders, and the former, as a whole, do not take sufficient interest in introducing new maids to desirable amusements and friends." (Maids' Club, Church Street, Kensington.)

Another leader at a club (The Quest) which caters mostly for factory workers, states that there is a lack of co-ordination between clubs. Several others mention the need for development and co-operation in club work.

While there is a Club Union and a strong Council of Social Service, there appears to be a certain lack of co-operation between individual clubs and other organisations. It is suggested that closer co-operation would result from the affiliation of the Kensington Federation to the C.S.S., and if possible mutual representation on the respective committees.

The Federation might also consider it advisable to have a publicity campaign in the borough, in order to get into closer touch with employers and maids who wish to hear of suitable clubs.

PADDINGTON

Information from the Paddington Federation of Girls' Clubs (Secretary, Miss Hogarth) and from questionnaires sent in by 12 clubs (Federation Clubs (4), G.F.S. (4), G.L.B. (2), M.A.B.Y.S. (1), Y.W.C.A. (1)).

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—The borough contains residential neighbourhoods, and poorer parts, *e.g.* the Paddington Station area. Many girls work in offices and shops in the City and West End, some in domestic service and hotel work; some are employed in factory work.

Facilities and Needs.—There are a Girls' Club Federation and a Council of Social Service in Paddington. Details of the 8 clubs, with a membership of 463, will be found in Tables II. and III. Other organisations include Girl Guides, total 1725 (Guiders 128, Rangers 176, Guides 767, Brownies 622, Cadet Rangers 18, Sea Rangers 14).

There is a large Church Army Club and Hostel with a membership of 300 over 14.

The following remarks are taken from the questionnaires :

"A club room open nightly is needed" (W. 2). "I am in favour of small clubs, but find difficulty in arranging for L.C.C. classes owing to lack of numbers" (W. 2). "Clubs seem to flourish and collapse—it is a difficult neighbourhood unless there are exceptional leaders."

Provision seems to have been made for girls of all ages, but maids need more facilities. The difficulty comes partly from the proximity of the borough to the West End. There are many counter-attractions to the clubs, and a number of girls belong to clubs run by the big firms. Also, so many of the better-off residents in the district are living in flats and boarding-houses, often for short periods only, and, even if they act as voluntary helpers, know little about local conditions, and are only in touch with the particular organisation they are assisting.

The need of Paddington would seem to be, on the one hand, the development and co-ordination of existing organisations in every way possible, particularly through publicity and propaganda by the Club Federation, and, on the other hand, the opening of new clubs particularly for hotel girls and other maids near Paddington Station.

THE SOUTH-WEST AREA (including S. KENSINGTON)

LAMBETH

From information received from interviews with social workers and from questionnaires received from 19 clubs (Camp Fire (1), C.A.W.G. (1), F.W.G.C. (4), G.F.S. (6), G.L.B. (3), L.G.C.U. (1), L.A.O.S. (2), Y.W.C.A. (1)).

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—Lambeth contains residential districts such as Brixton, Tulse Hill and Stockwell, which also have poorer quarters, and some densely populated parts with bad housing, near the Thames, e.g. Vauxhall, Kennington.

There are few open spaces in the Borough.

Girls from the residential areas work in shops and offices, mostly in Town and in domestic service. Others in the riverside district work in factories, mostly locally.

Facilities and Needs.—Sixteen of the clubs noted above have a total membership of 1615. 6 clubs open on three or more nights a week and 4 open on Sundays.

The Lady Margaret Hall Settlement and "The Duke of Clarence" Club run "open" clubs (the latter is a converted public house now open as a club centre) while the G.F.S. has its interesting experiment in an "open" mixed club at the "Whitehorse" centre.

Many educational and social activities are run by Morley College, serving some hundreds of students of very varied types.

The questionnaires indicate that most of the clubs have a good senior membership. Much of the club work is carried on by resident workers who know the needs of the district and their own work is developed as far as funds will permit. It is felt that there is still room for another "open" club in Lambeth, and as there is no J.O.C., C.S.S., or Club Union, a co-ordinating body could do useful work.

BATTERSEA

Information through the J.O.C. and from questionnaires received from units of the G.F.S., G.L.B., and F.W.G.C.

Part of the borough contains residential areas, and there are some poor and overcrowded districts, especially near Battersea High Street, where the population consists largely of gypsies, costers, and casual labourers. Girls from better parts work in Town, others are in domestic service and in local factories, etc.

The district is served by Battersea Park, where there are games pitches.

There is a strong J.O.C. which organises displays, sports, etc. and is in touch with the Evening Institutes, and with other L.C.C. organisations, and it acts as a link between the clubs.

WANDSWORTH

Information received by interviews with local workers and from questionnaires from 18 clubs (Adult School (1), C.A.W.G. (1), F.W.G.C. (4), G.F.S. (4), G.L.B. (5), L.G.C.U. (1), Y.W.C.A. (2)).

This neighbourhood is chiefly residential, interspersed with poorer districts. There is an L.C.C. housing estate, and new building estates of small houses.

There are plenty of open spaces offering facilities for games.

A large number of girls work in shops and offices in Town, others are in domestic service, shops and factory work in the borough.

Facilities and Needs.—There is no Club Union, J.O.C., or C.S.S. in Wandsworth. Of the 18 clubs noted above, three are open on three or more nights per week and 4 open on Sundays. The total membership is 1140. Excellent educational facilities are offered by the Bec Literary Institute which serves the Balham and Tooting districts, and has over 1100 students, the majority of whom are quite young. Various student clubs are run in connection with it. There is also a small Educational Settlement (the Balham Settlement). According to a Report made to the Central Council for the Social Welfare of Women and Girls in London, in March 1934, the districts of Streatham, Balham, Wandsworth, and Tooting offered good facilities of a specialised kind for the older girls, but there was great need for an open club. As a result of this report a club was opened by the N.C.G.C. in Wandsworth. Many of the Churches have an active social life, and run mixed Fellowships and "Literary Societies." There are political clubs for Young Conservatives and Young Socialists which have many social activities, and there are several independent dramatic and operatic clubs, and rambling clubs. The L.C.C. housing estate has a "Tenants' Association." The scarcity of "open" clubs available several evenings a week is a great loss to the girl who has only certain evenings free; this applies especially to maids.

A G.F.S. Club Leader in Clapham states that there is a need for a nightly "open" club. The home conditions of the girls are fairly good. She finds the Common is both an asset and a danger. A Streatham G.S.F. Leader states that the club is chiefly used as a meeting-place for maids who are strangers to London. Sunday afternoon informal teas and evening meetings (after church) are very popular.

It appears from the information received that much is done for young people in the borough, but that there is no link between the different organisations, nor any central source of information to which girls who are strangers in the neighbourhood can apply. A system of mutual registration of clubs, with posters at public libraries, Evening Institutes, servants' registry offices, and Employment Exchanges might help to solve the problem. A "Club Corner" in the local newspapers where all accounts of local club activities could be concentrated, instead of being scattered through the paper, as is usually the case, would afford useful publicity.

Such schemes would be valuable in an area where it might be difficult to arouse enthusiasm for a Club Federation or J.O.C. at present, and they might prepare the way for co-operation later.

FULHAM

Information from Bishop Creighton House Settlement and social workers, and from questionnaires sent in by 4 clubs (F.W.G.C., G.F.S., G.L.B., and L.G.C.U.).

This borough contains business, residential, and very poor neighbourhoods, and housing conditions vary from overcrowded districts to new housing areas.

There are few open spaces, and the whole area is congested.

Some girls work in town, many locally in shops, laundries, and factories.

There is no J.O.C., Club Union, or C.S.S. Only 1 of the clubs noted above is open on three or more nights (membership 200). The Bishop Creighton House Settlement does a great deal of work in the district (Lillie Road area), and also serves part of Hammersmith. It has large open clubs for girls and acts as training centre for Club Leaders. The Club Leader states that there is need for another "open" club for girls in Fulham in the district not served by the Settlement.

There is a club for girls who live on the Claude Leigh Housing Estate and the Bluebell Polish Company has a works club, with classes, athletic club, etc. There is also a club for Roman Catholic girls.

There would appear to be great need for some form of co-ordinating body in the form of a J.O.C. Council of Social Service or Club Union to link up the various organisations which are carrying on social work in the area.

CHELSEA

Information from various local workers and from questionnaires received from 7 clubs (F.W.G.C. (1), G.F.S. (2), G.L.B. (3), Others (1)).

This neighbourhood is partly residential, with some very poor and overcrowded areas and some districts which have deteriorated. Battersea Park serves part of Chelsea, but there are few other open spaces. Many girls are in domestic service, especially in boarding-houses and cafés.

The J.O.C. has been recently restarted and is endeavouring to co-ordinate the youth organisations of the district. Of the clubs noted above 2 only open on 3 or more nights a week and on Sundays. Membership totals 589. There are also Church Clubs and Girl Guide companies (total membership 563). A Girls' Club Federation could do valuable work in helping to develop girls' club work in Chelsea in co-operation with the J.O.C. which, in the past, has had more to do with the boys' side of club work.

WESTMINSTER

Information from local workers and from questionnaires received from 11 clubs (G.F.S. (6), L.G.C.U. (4), Others (1)).

This is a borough with very varied conditions including very congested areas with bad housing conditions, some new housing estates, some wealthy neighbourhoods with well-to-do private residents, a large number of hotels, boarding-houses and flats (especially south of Victoria Station) and some factories, shops and business premises. Apart from those in domestic service and other local employment, there are many girls working in the City or West End, and some students, who live in hostels, boarding-houses, or apartments in the district, especially in Pimlico.

The borough is served by the Royal Parks.

The 11 clubs noted above have a total membership of 781. 5 open on three or more nights a week and only 1 on Sundays. Girl Guides number 1050, of whom 535 are Guides, 314 Brownies and 74 are Rangers.

St Martin-in-the-Fields is the centre for many activities of the type usually run by Settlements, and does much work amongst girls. The G.F.S. has a rest-room in the neighbourhood, available for all girls every evening in the summer months. The following remarks are taken from questionnaires.

"Soho members are moving to the Suburbs." One club leader (Pimlico) states: "there are not enough girls to fill existing organisations." Another (which takes in the Grosvenor Housing Estate on the Thames Flood area) says: "New clubs, greater co-ordination and more workers needed. The solitary and the very poor need specially catering for." Another (Endell Street) also remarks: "lack of co-ordination between local clubs seems the greatest weakness."

It would appear that there is a great need for a Girls' Club Federation to link up existing clubs, and to develop the work in co-operation with other voluntary organisations in the district, especially through the Housing Estates and Girls' Hostels.

SOUTH-EASTERN BOROUGHES

SOUTHWARK

From interviews and from questionnaires received from 8 clubs (G.F.S. (2), G.L.B. (4), L.G.C.U. (1), S.I.U. (1)).

Southwark has a high percentage of overcrowding (34.6 per cent. living two or more to a room), and it has few open spaces. The girls are mostly engaged in factory work not far from their own homes. There is neither local Club Federation, Juvenile Organisations Committee, nor Council of Social Service. Southwark Diocesan Board does much work in the diocese, and acts as a link between clubs (Church and "open") and voluntary workers by means of its Panel of club helpers, etc.

Of the clubs noted above, 2 only open on three or more nights per week and none opens on Sunday. Membership totals 401. Work amongst girls seems chiefly to be done through missions and churches, with some un-denominational organisations. The Women's University Settlement and Charterhouse-in-Southwark run clubs.

There appears to be need for greater co-ordination and co-operation between the smaller clubs. One club leader states that there is difficulty in getting sufficient regular numbers of girls to meet the requirements of L.C.C. teachers in small clubs. This same leader says that in her opinion more mixed clubs are needed.

CAMBERWELL

From information received from the Warden of the U.G.S., Stafford Street Settlement, and from questionnaires received by 15 clubs (Camp Fire (1), F.W.G.C. (4), G.L.B. (6), L.G.C.U. (1), London Old Scholars' (2), S.I.U. (1)).

The northern district contains better residential areas served by Peckham Rye and Dulwich Park, while the southern is an overcrowded area which lacks open spaces.

Clerks and shop assistants live mostly in the northern districts, many working in Town, while many factory and laundry workers live in the southern district near their work.

Of the 15 clubs noted above, 3 meet on three or more nights a week, and 5 on two nights—none meets on Sunday. Total membership 931.

Work amongst girls is carried on chiefly by two Settlements (Talbot House and U.G.S. Settlement), Churches and Missions. The Claude Leigh Housing Estate runs a social centre for tenants (Augusta Johnson Social Centre). Special mention should be made of the work of the "Clubland" Centre in a very overcrowded area (Camberwell Road), which runs large clubs for boys and girls and older members on a specially thought-out system of self-government (club parliament, separate "houses" run by selected members from each section, etc.). It aims at "church loyalty" and "all-round fitness," and all members take their part in the life of the Church. There is neither a C.S.S., J.O.C., nor Club Federation.

The following remarks taken from the questionnaires, etc., give an idea of the needs of the district: "Insufficient facilities for outdoor games." U.G.S. Settlement states that there are no inter-club activities except for occasional matches. The Settlement shares a field with four other clubs at Peckham Rye. It is a training centre for club workers, but other organisations state that they suffer from a lack of young trained helpers. A club in Colmington Road, S.E., says there is need for a club for the rougher type of girl. Another emphasises a need generally felt for clubs for maids in Dulwich and Nunhead. They are unanimous on the need for more co-operation: "There is no adequate co-operation between clubs of different age-groups in the district" is the remark of a small club. The general opinion seems to be that lack of a binding link between the organisations, and lack of helpers, are hindering the work done.

LEWISHAM

From interviews and from questionnaires received from 7 clubs (Camp Fire (1), G.F.S. (1), G.L.B. (3), S.I.U. (1), Y.W.C.A. (1)).

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—A very large area, including residential areas, new housing, and poor neighbourhoods. It comprises part of Sydenham, Southend, Hither Green, Catford, Downham, Forest Hill, Grove Park, Lee Green, part of Blackheath, Honor Oak, etc.

Population of new housing estates is approximately: Grove Park 6000,

Downham 2300, Bellingham 12,000, Southend 5000-6000. The high rents, both in the new areas and in the older housing areas, affect the poorer families considerably. Girls on new estates have long distances to go to work and heavy fares, especially those working in the City.

Many of the girls and women are employed locally, in the "Golden Shred" marmalade works, silk works, biscuit factories, etc., Some of the girls in cafés and hairdressers' establishments have long hours.

There is a fair provision of open spaces, especially for the areas in the neighbourhood of Blackheath.

Of the 7 clubs noted above, only 1 opens three nights or more per week, and on Sundays (another opens fortnightly on Sundays). There is no Local Federation of Clubs, J.O.C., or C.S.S.¹ A great deal of work is done through the Churches, by Greyladies' College (Greenwich), especially in Downham where the Y.W.C.A. are also doing community work, and in Bellingham.

The need appears to be for further development of girls' club work, especially of "open" clubs, and greater co-operation, but the great variety in type of the various districts makes co-ordination difficult, except between the clubs organised by Greyladies.

BERMONDSEY AND ROTHERHITHE

(Taken together because there is a joint Council of Social Service)

General report by Miss Hooker of the Princess Club Settlement and questionnaires received from 12 clubs (F.W.G.C. (6), G.F.S. (1), G.L.B. (1), London Diocesan Girls' Fellowship (1), L.G.C.U. (2), Y.W.C.A. (1)).

Notes on Social and Economic Conditions.—This is a congested area. There are many new buildings, but rents are too high for the type of population (many casual labourers). There is a large Irish population, the result of the importation of cheap Irish labour to build railways.

One area at the extreme end of Rotherhithe, known as "Down Town," is badly off, as there are no rooms suitable for clubs, and it has no transport services, owing to narrow streets.

There is little unemployment amongst girls. They mostly work in shops, factories, and coffee shops. Many shops have long hours and poor pay, but, employment being regular, they are more remunerative than the bad factories. Employment is mostly local. Home conditions are poor.

The 12 clubs who sent in questionnaires have a total membership of approximately 2000. 4 open three or more nights a week and 2 on Sundays.

It appears that work is chiefly carried on by 4 Settlements (the Princess Club, Time and Talents, both acting as training centres, Alice Barlow House, and Dockland Settlement), the Charterhouse Mission, Shaftesbury Society Missions, and the Y.W.C.A. Club (open one night a week only), and the Churches. The Settlement Clubs are "open," and Time and Talents and the Princess Club cater for about 600 girls between them, in mixed and other clubs. There are about 42 Church clubs, including a Roman Catholic club which works amongst the Irish population. There are also factory and works clubs. There are a very flourishing Labour League of Youth and a Junior Imperial League. While there is no Club Federation or J.O.C., there is an active Council of Social Service, which has published a handbook of the district.

¹ Downham has a well-established Community Association.

The following remarks are taken from the area survey and from questionnaires :

"There is little inter-club co-operation." One leader does not consider it advisable, as clubs mostly belong to organisations such as the F.W.G.C., L.G.C.U., S.I.U., etc., through which the girls come in contact with those from other districts through displays, competitions, etc.

She considers more mixed clubs are needed, and more clubs for the rougher girls. Good holiday homes at reasonable prices are urgently needed.

The response to educational facilities is only fair, this being accounted for by the large proportion of factory workers, who do not settle to any activities needing concentration. One worker sums up the population, "Casual labour makes casual people."

Halls are available for meetings, but lack of open spaces makes it difficult to run games, though there are pitches in the park, and L.C.C. playgrounds are used. There are no open spaces left for playing fields.

The Southwark Diocesan Board supplies workers to all types of local clubs through its panel of voluntary helpers.

It would seem that a great deal of work is being done by bodies knowing thoroughly the conditions in their immediate area. There is much room for expansion through the existing organisations, which could do much more if funds allowed.

DEPTFORD AND GREENWICH

Information from two questionnaires (1 G.L.B. and a Church Club) and interviews with local workers.

These areas are taken together because, although Greenwich has good residential areas with a better-off population, mostly working in offices and business in Town, the area near the river overlaps, as far as club work is concerned, with parts of Deptford, where conditions are similar. They correspond also very much with those in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe.

There is bad housing in the riverside areas, where girls work mostly in local factories.

There is no Club Federation, J.O.C. or C.S.S. Work is done by Greyladies through the Churches.

Clubs are run through missions, Churches and undenominational organisations.

There appears to be little co-operation with the L.C.C. Evening Institutes, the clubs running their own classes. There are other institutes run on Settlement lines, and catering for both sexes and all ages. Special provision is made for factory girls. In the residential parts of Greenwich the Churches run the usual parish organisations.

There appears to be scope for co-ordination of club work and for investigation of the possibility of making more use of facilities offered by the L.C.C. for club classes, etc.

WOOLWICH, with PLUMSTEAD and ELTHAM

From interviews and from questionnaires received from 6 clubs (F.W.G.C. (1), G.F.S. (2), G.L.B. (1), Y.W.C.A. (1), London Old Scholars (1)).

The area by the river is congested, and there is some bad housing. There are good residential areas, and a new housing estate at Eltham, where many people have been transferred from Woolwich, which is also a residential

district for City workers. The lower part of Plumstead has a working-class population.

The girls in the riverside area mostly work locally, those from other districts being employed in Town.

There is no Federation of Girls' Clubs, but there is a J.O.C. The Council of Social Service is anxious to further local co-operation and develop existing organisations.

There is a large variety of organisations represented in the neighbourhood, including a Settlement, St Francis House, which runs Church clubs near the river and on the housing estates; clubs run by other Church workers, social clubs, a Y.W.C.A. at Plumstead (one night only), youth groups, etc. Little is done in the way of club work at Eltham at present, but there is a Community Association on the L.C.C. estate which has formed a kind of J.O.C. to link up sports clubs, etc.

The chief need of the district seems to be development of existing clubs and the establishment of an "open" club. There would seem to be scope for a Girls' Club Federation run in co-operation with the J.O.C. or C.S.S., as at present there is little co-ordination in this work.

UNIONS AND FEDERATIONS OF CLUBS

Besides the Federations organised in a few of the London Boroughs (St Marylebone, St Pancras, Paddington, Shoreditch, Stepney and Kensington), there are three non-territorial groups, the London Diocesan Girls' Fellowship, the London Girls' Club Union and the Social Institutes' Union.

THE LONDON DIOCESAN GIRLS' FELLOWSHIP

From information received from Miss Barton, Secretary, L.D.G.F.

This is a Fellowship (founded in 1919) of Parochial (and other) groups of members whose aim is to link the members together by a bond of Prayer and Service, to train them in Christian Citizenship, and to provide for them opportunities for social intercourse and friendship. To enjoy full membership members must be confirmed, and over 14. There are Children's and Junior Groups for those under 14. Associate members are girls over 14 who have not yet been confirmed. All members undertake to keep a simple Rule of Life. Admission to the Fellowship is made by the Incumbent of the Parish, and each group of members has its own president, leader, secretary and committee. The committee is elected annually by the members of the Group from among their full members, and the leader of the Group acts as chairman of the committee.

Each group is responsible for its own finance and should be self-supporting. An annual subscription at the rate of one shilling per annum for each member (full or Associate) is sent to Headquarters to cover cost of postage, printing, and affiliation fees to the N.C.G.C. etc. Parochial clubs whose members are not prepared to become members of the Fellowship may affiliate and share in some of the activities and privileges. The annual affiliation fee for such clubs is considerably less (2s. 6d. for the first twenty members and 6d. for each additional ten members).

Among the annual events are a service for the whole Fellowship, displays

of club work, garden party or sports afternoon, rally for all members and their friends, business meeting for leaders and officers, holiday parties and camps, "Quiet Afternoons" and "Retreats" and conferences for leaders, and for members. There is a Girls' Council which meets twice a year for the purpose of planning, with representatives of the leaders, the joint activities of the Fellowship Groups. A report of the activities of each group is sent annually to Headquarters. The Girls' Fellowship is affiliated to, and represented on, the N.C.G.C., and it is affiliated to the Girl Guides Association (Special leaflet "The London Diocesan Girls' Fellowship Guides").

The Fellowship Magazine, *The New Adventure*, is issued twice a year. The colours of the Fellowship are purple, gold, and white.

There are affiliated to the N.C.G.C. 22 clubs (6 of which are outside the L.C.C. area) with a total membership of 499 (1933-34 figures). During 1934-1935 there was a considerable increase in the total membership. (The junior membership was greatly strengthened.)

Six questionnaires have been received (membership, 3 of 20, 2 of 50, 1 of 100). In every case the membership is low in the age-groups 14-18, and increases greatly from 18-25. The members come from working-class homes.

The Fellowship appears to provide much the same facilities as the F.W.G.C. and the L.G.C.U., but it also serves the purpose of linking together Church of England clubs and Church of England girls who do not belong to the other organisations. (It is a rule of the Fellowship that an affiliated club should not be affiliated to another organisation with the exception of the J.O.C.)

Any organisation linking up Church clubs, which are often isolated by the nature of their constitution from contact with other clubs, is serving a useful purpose, and it cannot be said that there is overlapping in the case of this organisation, as it provides for those clubs which do not desire to belong to an interdenominational society, such as the L.G.C.U. It would seem to attract principally the older girl.

THE LONDON GIRLS' CLUB UNION

From information received from Miss Muskett, Secretary, L.G.C.U.

The L.G.C.U. is the oldest Union of Working Girls' Clubs. It was founded in 1880 by the Hon. Maude Stanley, who was the pioneer of the Girls' Club movement. One of the privileges accorded to the L.G.C.U. through Her Majesty the Queen's interest in Miss Stanley's work, was the giving of her Holiday Home for free holidays to the members of the L.G.C.U. for the three summer months.

The Union encourages recreational and cultural activities in its affiliated clubs, and stimulates the interest of the club members in important questions of the day, through the organisation of conferences, lectures and debates.

The Union is interdenominational, and opens its doors to all clubs working for the good of the London girl, leaving freedom of action to each club in its constitution and working. In order to encourage a high standard of work in classes it organises annual competitions in Choral Singing, P.T., Country Dancing, Swimming, Dramatic and Literary work, Needlework, Handicrafts, Cookery and Bulb Growing. From the comments in the last report it appears that P.T., Needlework, Cookery and Bulb Growing attracted the largest number of entries, and produced the best work. It is interesting to note

that four mixed Choirs entered for the Choral singing, and that the innovation of having a scene from a modern play for the Dramatic section quite justified itself.

The Union has a netball league, and the tournament appears to be appreciated by both the girls and their leaders. Other branches of the work are the two annual Sunday Services, one for Church of England and Free Church Members, and the other for Roman Catholics, the provision of holidays, and the Club Members' and Club Workers' Conferences. There is a Girls' Standing Committee whose members help with competitions, displays, etc. A great point is made of the provision of holidays for members. In 1933 82 girls drawn from 22 clubs visited Barn House as guests of Her Majesty the Queen, 69 other girls were helped to take a holiday and grants were made to 9 clubs towards club parties. Details of the 96 clubs with a membership of 8583 will be seen in Tables II. and III. Four of these clubs are also in the S.I.U. and some are in local Federations. It will be seen that there is a high proportion of Church clubs of all denominations (including those of the Jewish faith), that there are 10 units of National Organisations, and 10 clubs which belong to the F.W.G.C. which offers much the same facilities in the way of competitions, leagues, etc., as the L.G.C.U. It is encouraging to note that as many as 42 are open for three or more nights a week, although in some cases this means that there are different nights for the different age-groups which only meet once a week. A very small proportion open on Sundays, apart from Bible Classes (13).

Twenty-one clubs (excluding those outside the London Boroughs) sent in questionnaires. (Membership, 7 of 50, 6 of 200, 3 of 100, 2 of 20, 2 of 300 and 1 of 950.) A large proportion of these have paid full-time or half-time workers, in addition to voluntary workers. They are nearly all open winter and summer, with the exception of holiday periods. Some of the girls come from bad housing areas, some from new. 10 clubs are predominantly or only for factory workers, two clubs have only clerical workers, while 8 are fairly evenly mixed.

In most cases the members are either represented on the Executive Committee of the club, or have their own Sub-Committees. There is a fair proportion of inter-club activities. 9 have mixed evenings monthly or oftener, 4 only occasionally. All have a religious basis and most have religious observances of some kind in the club; 18 have libraries (6 with Carnegie Grants); 9 have co-operation with the L.C.C. for educational facilities; 3 co-operate with the J.A.C., 1 with the W.E.A. Details of club classes show that of the handicrafts knitting comes first (17), then embroidery (12), dress-making (10), basket and leather-work (7), raffia (6), rugmaking (4); 14 have socials, 11 music, 9 drama, 9 lectures, 5 debates, 3 hobbies, 4 nursing, 7 cookery.

Fourteen have physical training, 15 dancing (2 ballroom dancing only), 11 rambles, 11 netball, 8 swimming, 4 hockey, 10 indoor games. 10 have a quiet room, 16 canteens, 16 holidays (12 run by themselves), 9 have some form of arrangements for help in sickness.

The L.G.C.U. succeeds in bringing together members of different denominations and faiths by means of its activities. It would seem to run parallel in many ways with the F.W.G.C., and there appears to be some overlapping. This applies also to the clubs affiliated both to the L.G.C.U. and the S.I.U.

THE SOCIAL INSTITUTES' UNION

From information received from Miss Micholls, Secretary, S.I.U.

The S.I.U. was founded considerably over twenty-five years ago by the late Dr J. B. Paton, who gave it this title in preference to that of a Club Union with the idea of distinguishing an association of working people for purely social and recreative purposes from clubs organised with other ideas and aims.

The Union's objects are : to unite Clubs and Social Institutes for women and girls of the industrial community in a Senior or a Junior Federation ; to organise competitions in drill, singing, recitation, essays, hygiene, needlework, cooking, nature, swimming, piano playing, folk dancing, drawing, painting, photography ; to provide lectures, arrange conferences at which addresses are given on social subjects, to organise a monthly series of outings or visits to places of interest in London and district ; to obtain invitations to country gardens for club members during summer months ; to arrange holidays ; to encourage athletics by the organisation of tournaments in netball, tennis, and swimming, and by arranging indoor and outdoor sports meetings ; to assist club leaders to find teachers and workers for their clubs ; to give members of affiliated clubs the opportunity to share in the privileges offered by the Societies to which the S.I.U. is affiliated (N.C.G.C., Women's Advisory Council of the League of Nations Union, British Social Hygiene Council, British Drama League, London Gardens Guild, and National Council of Women) to provide cheap refreshments in pleasant surroundings, and to establish a central meeting-place for affiliated clubs.

The affiliation fee paid by each club is 2d per annum for each member, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for members of Junior Federations when the senior club is affiliated ; otherwise juniors pay the same as seniors.

The work of the Union is carried on by Councils of club leaders and club members, which have separate quarterly meetings, in addition to the Executive at Headquarters.

From the report of activities for the years 1931-33, it appears that the competitions, sports, outings, conferences, etc., were successfully organised and well attended. Grants were received from various trusts towards holidays for club members. The premises in Portugal Street were used as Headquarters for the meetings of the London Division of Girls' Clubs, and for various other organisations. There is a restaurant and men's dinner club on the premises, and a rest-room for girls.

Ten questionnaires were received for the Survey, from which the following details were ascertained :

Membership, 1 of 20, 6 of 50, 2 of 100 (1 unspecified). A good proportion of girls between 14-18 in all the clubs. Club nights : 2 open three nights, 3 open two nights, 4 open one night. All members from working-class homes (bad and new housing estates). Occupations : 2 fairly evenly mixed, 2 predominantly clerical, 2 factory and clerical, 1 predominantly factory. 5 clubs have entrance conditions (3 religious, 2 residential). All but one have committees on which club members serve ; 6 have occasional mixed evenings, and one frequent mixed evenings ; the activities are varied, 6 co-operating

with the L.C.C. for classes. Statistics submitted for the Union as a whole are as follows :

Number of clubs affiliated—

Senior	46
Junior	11

Number affiliated to other organisations—

F.W.G.C.	4
L.G.C.U.	4
G.F.S.	2

Number of Church clubs	25
„ Settlement clubs	11
„ “ Open ” clubs	11

Number of other clubs—

Evening Institute	3	} 10
Old Scholars	3	
Girls' Guildry	4	

Approximate number of Seniors	1269
„ „ Juniors	420

LONDON UNIONS—CONCLUSION

It will have been noted that many of the clubs are affiliated to several Unions which have very much in common, each organising competitions and demonstrations, etc. Although the Unions are united in a London Division, it is questionable whether there is not room for closer co-ordination. It would perhaps be well for the London Division to consider the comments of an independent observer on this point :

“The account given . . . of the various organisations dealing with adolescent girls shows how numerous these are, and there is undoubtedly much overlapping. It is a question how far this is desirable. Some apparent duplication is doubtless inevitable in view of the different aims and methods of different types of organisations (*e.g.* Guides and Clubs), and of the different religious policy pursued by different groups. But it is clear that several of the Associations and Federations described . . . have very little to distinguish them, and this is borne out by the fact that many clubs are affiliated to more than one body. Thus an analysis has been made of the membership of the Federation of Working Girls' Clubs, the club organisation having the largest membership in the Survey Area, from which it appears that 36 per cent. of the members over 14 are in clubs also affiliated to another organisation, in some cases also under the National Council of Girls' Clubs, in others not. Such a degree of overlapping must involve a great waste of effort and funds, and it is a question whether some further co-ordination is not called for.” (*Survey of London Life and Labour*, Vol. IX. Sec. 5.)

Youth Organisations in London

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. F.W.G.C.	126 *	10,863 *
2. G.F.S.	105	3,820
		1,273 †
3. Girls' Guildry	21	1,122
4. G.L.B.	?	8,225
5. Y.W.C.A.	41 *	7,104 *
6. Girl Guides	2,854	62,527
7. C.A.W.G.	26 *	No returns
8. Camp Fire Girls	41	No returns
9. Clubs affiliated to local Federations (including units of organisation 1-8):		
Kensington Federation	16	700
London Diocesan Girls' Fellowship	22	482
London Girls' Club Union	96	8,583
Paddington Federation	8	463
St Pancras Federation	18	891
Shoreditch Federation	11	1,023
Social Institutes' Union ‡	57	1,689
Stepney Association	21	2,835

* Including Greater London Boroughs.

† Estimated figures for Candidates.

‡ Including 10 clubs in other Federations.

MANCHESTER

Statistics from Census of Occupation (published 1934)

Total Population, 766,333 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	321,411
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	146,215
Do. Unoccupied	175,196

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Makers of textile goods and articles of dress	36,427
Personal service (including clubs, institutions, hotels, etc.)	31,728
Clerks and draughtsmen, typists	15,958
Commerce, finance, insurance (excluding clerks)	15,323
Textile workers	11,809
Other workers	7,060
Other workers (unskilled)	(5,502)
Professional occupations (excluding clerical)	6,379
Warehousemen: storekeepers, packers	6,154
Workers in paper and cardboard, bookbinders	2,909
Makers of food, drinks, tobacco	2,054
Persons engaged in transport and communications	2,014

Notes on the employment of girls.—Manchester has been feeling the effects of the general trade depression in Lancashire, but there is not so great an unemployment problem for girls as in other Lancashire towns, since Manchester offers a variety of occupations. Many Church workers, however, report great distress amongst the families in their parishes.

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied . .	2,196	1,470	1,755	2,137	7,558
2. Students etc. (included in 1)	1,410	992	854	419	3,675
3. Occupied	3,451	4,863	12,853	19,240	40,407
4. Out of work (included in 3)	2,579				2,579
5. Total population	5,647	6,333	14,608	21,377	47,965

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied . .	2,389	1,406	1,081	680	5,556
2. Students etc. (included in 1)	1,579	1,147	779	501	4,006
3. Occupied	3,227	4,674	12,327	19,047	39,275
4. Out of work (included in 3)	4,851				4,851
5. Total population	5,616	6,080	13,408	19,727	44,831

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	4	81
2. G.L.B.	12	574
3. Girls' Guildry	6	169
4. Girl Guides	{ R. 88 G. 208 B. 193	{ R. 1,064 G. 4,556 B. 3,499
5. C.A.W.G.	2	No returns
6. Clubs affiliated to the Union (including 6 units of organisations 1-5)	35	3,250

REPORTS FROM CERTAIN AREAS IN MANCHESTER

Investigator.—The Union Secretary and others

1. (a) *Ancoats.*

(i) Manchester Girls' Club Institute, the largest Club affiliated to this Union, has 300 members under 14, 60 from 14-18, and 225 members 18 and over. They have educational, athletic, and social activities of all kinds, with

summer activities such as rambles, holidays, etc. They have baths, foot-clinic, and mothers' meetings. This club lacks teachers and helpers, and also is in jeopardy financially, owing to the death of several supporters, whose places cannot be filled owing to the depression.

(ii) Heyrod St., non-sectarian, has the largest junior club in Manchester, with a membership of 405; 312 under 14, 37 from 14-18, and 56 over 18. It has all kinds of educational, social and athletic activities, and summer activities including a holiday camp. This club lacks teachers and helpers.

There are clubs attached to the Churches—St Jude's; All Souls, Every Street; St Andrew's, Trevis Street; St Philip's, Ridgeway St; Star Hall Salvation Army; and Every Street Congregational Church. Wesley Hall Methodist Church has a club affiliated to the local union with a membership of 49 under 14, and 74 over 14. It has educational and athletic activities but lacks helpers and teachers. St James the Less has no club. There are 4 Roman Catholic Churches in the area. They have either no club or were not willing to fill in a questionnaire, or to give useful information.

(b) *Beswick*.—St Mary's, Palmerston Street, has no club at present owing to the lack of room at the Church School where other activities are already in existence; it would be willing to help in this area if something were done.

(c) *Miles Platting*.—There is a club attached to St Luke's, Albion Street. St John the Evangelist has no club, and the Independent Methodist Girls' Club was given up eighteen months ago. The Salvation Army, Varley Street, has no club and does not seem interested.

Ancoats, Beswick, and Miles Platting are neighbouring districts. Ancoats is a slum area and is the best provided for district with clubs within the whole area covered by the Manchester, Salford, and District Union. Certainly no more clubs in Ancoats are required, but those that exist need modernising, in some cases both structurally and mentally. A number need financial help, and all need helpers and teachers.

2. *Some New Estates.*

Details of Newton Heath, Wilbraham Association, and Burnage Association have been given in Part I. Sec. X.

3. *Urmston, Flixton and Darnhulme.*

Investigator.—Mrs E. Winstanley (Townswomen's Guild).

This is an urban district some five to six miles out of Manchester with a population of 27,000. It has developed rapidly since the War and is not a poor district (type of houses, those selling at £250 to £450, and a few Council houses). The district is largely residential, with large stores and other shops, 3 small factories and 2 laundries.

A proportion of the young people working belong to clubs and sports clubs provided by firms at a distance. A number take advantage of facilities of all kinds available in Manchester.

Youth Organisations.—There are known to be some 21 youth groups in the district, of which 1 is an "open club," 13 are Church clubs and the rest include political and semi-political groups and Old Scholars' Associations.

Of the 13 Church clubs 9 are associated with the Free Churches, 3 with the Church of England, and 1 is a Roman Catholic Sodality (Children of Mary). The total membership of all clubs is 261. Eight are "mixed," 6

meet one night a week, 2 meet fortnightly and 1 meets twice a week. Of the political or semi-political groups the Junior Conservatives meeting fortnightly have a membership of 50. The Comrades Circle of the Co-operative Society with a membership of 40 and the Guild of Youth (Labour Party) with 30, meet weekly. There is also a League of Nations Youth Group in the district (membership not stated). The United Kingdom Alliance is strongly represented with a Cadet section of 400 seniors and 300 juniors. They are mixed groups which combine temperance work and an insurance scheme with various social activities. The average attendance of the junior section (under 14) is 150. Other social and recreational facilities include 2 hockey clubs, 1 works hockey club, 2 girl guide hockey clubs, various tennis clubs, 3 dramatic societies and 1 operatic group. The 2 cinemas offer considerable attraction. There is one Evening Institute. There is practically no co-operation between youth organisations (the League of Nations Youth Group has joint meetings with the Congregational League of Youth).

Playing Fields.—These are badly needed for girls. The pitches in recreation grounds are used by boys and men. Public tennis courts are hired at 1s. per hour.

Leaders.—These are drawn from amongst Church workers, welfare workers, teachers and leisured women. Leaders could take advantage of facilities for training in Manchester.

Special needs of the area.—An "open" club available almost every night of the week. Leaders and helpers are wanted throughout the district.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

Total Population, 283,145 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over.	111,393
Do. Occupied	37,197
Do. Unoccupied	74,196

Juvenile Population.—Occupations and unemployment in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	1,376	884	1,170	1,760	5,190
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	27	308	292	322	949
3. Occupied	982	1,702	4,154	6,213	13,051
4. Out of work (included in 3)			1,378		1,378
5. Total population	2,358	2,586	5,324	7,973	18,241

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	1,385	699	535	328	2,947
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	845	397	257	167	1,666
3. Occupied	1,159	2,004	4,688	7,148	14,999
4. Out of work (included in 3)			2,344		2,344
5. Total population	2,544	2,703	5,223	7,476	17,946

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	13,839
Commerce, finance, insurance	6,531
Clerks, typists	4,896
Professional workers	2,603
Makers of textiles	2,228
Warehouse : packers, etc.	1,538
Other workers	1,437
Other workers (unskilled)	980

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	5	333
2. G.L.B.	10	384
3. Y.W.C.A.	4	1,120
4. Girl Guides	<div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="font-size: 2em; margin-right: 5px;">{</div> <div> R. 22 G. 92 B. 78 </div> </div> </div>	<div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="font-size: 2em; margin-right: 5px;">{</div> <div> R. 291 G. 2,228 B. 1,699 </div> </div> </div>

There are also a few Church clubs, *e.g.* the Girls' Guild of Service run in connection with a Methodist Church, and most Churches have Guide Companies (31 Church of England, 2 Roman Catholic and 1 Jewish). A few elementary schools have Old Scholars' Clubs. The League of Women Helpers run an "open" club in a poor part of Newcastle. (And see Part I. Sec. VI. for Play Centres.)

Students admitted to Evening Institutes

Ages	Boys	Girls
14—15	755	601
15—16	458	207
16—17	462	160
17—18	451	149
18—21	1,101	207
Total, 14—21	3,227	1,324
Over 21	1,035	1,343
Total all ages	4,262	2,667

General Remarks from a Memorandum sent in by a local Guider

"The home conditions of many hundreds of girls are deplorable. In many of the new housing estates it will be found that though the outside of the dwelling looks passable enough, the house is only furnished with the barest necessities. In many cases families were unable to bring their furniture up from their slum dwellings owing to its verminous condition, and even now responsible authorities reckon that 50 per cent. of the new dwellings are verminous. There is therefore little comfort indoors.

"The response to educational facilities is distinctly poor. Most business houses have sports clubs which seem to flourish. Though there are a great many amateur dramatic societies in Newcastle, it could not be said that they include more than an infinitesimal proportion of the working girls of the city.

"The cinema is, as ever, the potent attraction. Several new cinemas have lately been put up in the poorer districts, and apparently do excellent business, as the weekly or bi-weekly pictures seem to be reckoned a necessity of life. It is noteworthy that, as far as I have been able to find, girls attached to Clubs, Guides, etc., do not have the cinema "obsession" to the same extent.

"With regard to the strength and effect of political feeling, I have not found that politics enter into recreational facilities. The 'Young Britons' Movement seems active and strong."

FACILITIES AND NEEDS

Co-operation.—Very little. Only the J.O.C. Swimming Gala and Netball League. There seems little enthusiasm for inter-club activities.

Premises.—Not available to any satisfactory extent. Most Church halls are booked for their own activities and the others are very expensive.

Playing Fields.—Only those in connection with the Education Committee, charge 2s. 6d. per night, and on the Town Moor, which is very public.

Leaders.—Drawn from Old Girls' Societies of Schools, teachers, a few Toc H League of Women Helpers, a very few leisured women, and some Guides and Rangers. It is extremely difficult to find leisured women as leaders. The reason for this is mostly that, since the War, even the "public school" girl adopts a profession as a matter of course.

Speaking as a Girl Guides' Commissioner, 98 per cent. of my Guiders are daily workers of some sort, with little time for training, and only an annual holiday of a fortnight or a few weeks.

Training.—Facilities very few, but those provided are not taken great advantage of.

Needs.—The city of Newcastle and Tyneside generally have changed very rapidly lately, as large bodies of people have been transferred from the congested areas to the new housing estates, some two miles or more from their homes. At present there are practically no recreational facilities in the housing estates, at Walker, Denton, etc., though cinemas are appearing very rapidly. In the few cases where there are Church halls (built through the Bishop's Church Extension Fund) the youth organisations are overflowing and cannot be accommodated. This is specially the case at Walker.

The Tyneside Council of Social Service is developing the work amongst

unemployed women and girls, together with the wives and daughters of unemployed, but here again "leaders" are urgently needed.

There are a vast number of girls outside any organisation. Belonging to families who have probably been unemployed for years and whose standard of living is very low, they seem to have no powers of concentration, and any form of activity which involves mental effort soon tires them.

There is a general need for more clubs, especially "open" clubs. Leaders and helpers are urgently needed, and premises and playing fields are necessary for development.

Publicity.—An urgent appeal for workers among young people was made by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales at a meeting in the City Hall last year. This was broadcast, but I think I am right in saying that the response, if any, was negligible. One seems to rely now for leaders on girls and young women who have graduated in the Guide movement, as it is practically the only organisation which includes a fair proportion of educated girls.

NOTES BY M. ROOFF

Unemployment.—The Y.W.C.A. was amongst the earliest of the club movements to organise special activities for unemployed women and girls, this work starting in Tyneside in 1928.

It has been found very difficult to start centres for unemployed girls as such, and the work has progressed with the development of general club work open to all girls. It was felt that "Keep Fit" work should be encouraged, and the local Physical Training Organisers are helping in so far as they have time in the effort to stimulate the development of recreational gymnastics in Newcastle and the surrounding villages. They have started two classes for leaders and teachers (all of whom are voluntary), and in one suburb an "open" class is run for a fee of 2d. or 3d. an evening. The Gymnast Association gives a grant of £5 towards the payment of pianists, and the County Education Authority lends halls free to its own staff. A salaried organiser free to develop this movement could do work which is urgently needed.

NORFOLK AND NORWICH

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total Population 126,207 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	54,119
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	20,582
Do. Unoccupied	33,537

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Makers of textile goods	6,019
Personal service	5,081
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants)	2,203
Clerks and draughtsmen, typists	2,095
Professional occupations	1,245

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied . . .	306	213	228	363	1,110
2. Students, etc. (included in 1) .	214	163	110	45	532
3. Occupied	625	837	2,132	3,261	6,855
4. Out of work (included in 3) .	290				290
5. Total population	931	1,050	2,360	3,624	7,965

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied . . .	325	211	146	63	745
2. Students, etc. (included in 1) .	275	184	105	27	591
3. Occupied	532	734	1,819	3,160	6,245
4. Out of work (included in 3) .	372				372
5. Total population	857	945	1,965	3,223	6,990

Youth Organisations

There are 9 clubs affiliated to the Norfolk and Norwich Federation, with a total membership of 418. Of these 1 is a Y.W.C.A., and 8 are attached to Churches or are "open" clubs.

Of the clubs attached to the Church of England, 5 are G.F.S., 2 are Church Girls' Brigade, 7 are Girl Guide Companies, and 5 are clubs: 12 Churches are reported to have no girls' work. Of the clubs attached to Free Churches, 4 are G.L.B., 4 are clubs, and 1 a Girl Guide Company: 3 Churches are reported to have no girls' work. The Salvation Army have 3 Legions; the Roman Catholic Churches have no girls' work.

There are also a gymnasium (Priory) with a girls' section, and two junior political groups (Junior "Imps" and Guild of Youth). Enquiries concerning works' clubs gave negative results. Two had no clubs and other factories were known to have no welfare work of any kind.

FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN NORFOLK AND NORWICH

Local Investigator.—Miss I. M. Hoare, Belaugh House, Wroxham, Norfolk.

Co-operation.—Co-operation in Federation clubs: outings, social evenings, united training week, united display, united New Year's Service. In other clubs there is no co-operation.

Premises.—Clubs lend halls. For displays the Norwich Corporation lends a large hall for "out of pocket" expenses only. The Lads' Club will often lend.

Playing Fields.—School playgrounds are available, for which the usual charge is 1s. per game. Charges are too high for small clubs to use public parks, but larger clubs can hire hockey pitches at £5, 10s. per season for alternate Thursdays or Saturdays, and netball courts are £1, 1s. per season.

Leaders.—These are drawn from among Church members, leisured women, teachers, and old club members.

Training.—There are no training facilities, except those provided by the Federation of clubs. The need for trained teachers is very great. If the Norwich Education Committee would consider the needs of smaller clubs it would be an immense help. At present the Y.W.C.A. is the only club which is given a grant.

Publicity.—The local Press gives very good support.

Unemployed.—A special club is run on Corporation premises by the Norwich Unemployed Welfare Committee, open every day and two evenings a week. A paid leader is in charge.

(*N.B.*—Since filling in, this club has been closed owing to less unemployment.)

NEEDS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Clubs.—Voluntary Organisations of the type to appeal to girls are not adequate. The new housing areas—Mile Cross, Carlham and Drayton Road—are very insufficiently supplied. The majority of clubs limit their membership by accepting Church members only. The need is for “open” clubs; as well as for leaders, teachers and helpers, for closer touch with the local authority and for premises. The young people of 14 to 16 need special consideration.

Influence of amusements.—The membership of Cycling Clubs has greatly increased lately. Dramatic clubs are practically non-existent, and the Choral Societies do not touch the type of girl who needs a club. The Cinema and Dance Halls attract many. New swimming pools with dance floors and restaurants are also springing up, where it is feared that supervision is not always adequate.

NOTTINGHAM

Statistics from Census of Occupation (published 1934)

Total Population, 268,801 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	114,312
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	49,924
Do. Unoccupied	64,388

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Textile workers	12,547
Personal service	10,224
Makers of textile goods	8,256
Clerks and draughtsmen, typists	4,105
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants)	3,927
Warehouse : store : packers	2,683
Professional workers	2,165
Foods, drinks, tobacco	1,419
Makers of paper, cardboard, bookbinders	1,273
Other workers	1,053
Other workers (unskilled)	(918)

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	625	351	414	732	2,122
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	373	228	183	76	860
3. Occupied	1,337	1,864	4,678	7,111	14,990
4. Out of work (included in 3)			458		458
5. Total population	1,962	2,215	5,092	7,843	17,112

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	588	286	260	151	1,285
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	348	226	171	86	831
3. Occupied	1,302	1,754	4,339	6,454	13,849
4. Out of work (included in 3)			1,174		1,174
5. Total population	1,890	2,040	4,599	6,605	15,134

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	10	329
2. G.L.B.	3	134
3. Y.W.C.A.	2	575
4. Girl Guides	{ R. 25 G. 86 B. 72	{ R. 394 G. 1,924 B. 1,356
5. C.A.W.G.	1	No returns
6. Clubs affiliated to the Union (including units of organisations 1-5)	41	1,827

Students admitted to Evening Institutes (1933-34)

Ages	Boys	Girls
14—15	434	400
15—16	322	180
16—17	311	245
17—18	314	249
18—21	353	621
Total, 14—21	1,734	1,695
Over 21	435	2,031
Total, all ages	2,169	3,726

FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN NOTTINGHAM

Local Investigator.—Miss P. E. Hatton, Garton, Elm Road, Nottingham.

Co-operation.—There is close co-operation between the clubs affiliated to the Nottingham Union. Joint activities are held on an average once a month during the winter season. The following are annual events and activities: Members' Conference, Social and Dance, held in the early autumn; Festival at the end of the season, when the largest available hall is taken and displays are given in physical work, dancing and singing. Members' outing, in spring or early summer, and a week-end was spent at one of the Youth Hostels in Derbyshire this year. This is to be repeated next year. Organised games have been arranged, for all the clubs wishing to take part, on one evening during the summer months. Dramatic evenings, concerts, and lectures have been a feature of the winter activities in former years.

New Experiments.—A swimming gala was tried this year with great success. A service for girls in the Parish Church on December 11th was held, open to all girls, whether members of clubs or not, and belonging to Churches of all denominations; business firms were circularised and handbills distributed.

Joint rambles were begun in the summer, and there is a great demand for more next year. A Pageant (Historical) is taking the place of the usual Festival in March 1935. Practically all the clubs are taking part, and joint rehearsals of groups of clubs are proving very stimulating and bringing the members in closer contact with one another.

Other Activities.—The management of the Union is in the hands of a Leaders' Committee, meeting monthly, and a Members' Committee also meeting monthly. Two groups of clubs, within the Union, combine for holidays, camps, etc. These are the C.E.T.S. group and the Nottingham Evening Homes group. The G.F.S. clubs, of course, join in with their own organisation in special events, usually a Service and Festival. Two clubs possessing country cottages offer the use of them to members of the Union, when they are not required for their own clubs. Several clubs combine to hire swimming baths for the summer months.

The Education Authorities are exceedingly helpful. Tutors are provided for Physical Training classes in several clubs, where a certain attendance is guaranteed. The P.T. Organiser for the City gave one of the lectures in a series of talks for those wishing to take up club work. A keen interest is taken in club activities. A grant of £500 is allocated by the Education Authority to the J.O.C., and the C.E.T.S. group of clubs obtains a small grant from this towards camp and hire of a swimming bath.

Advice to join Clubs.—The co-operation of Headmistresses and Ministry of Labour Officials is being sought in this connection. In one case, a club has been started in a new housing estate with every encouragement from the Headmistress, who had notices displayed for the benefit of the girls leaving at the end of the summer term, and allowed the Union Secretary to address the older girls on the proposed new club.

Premises.—Several halls are available; the largest are the Albert Hall, seating about 2500, and Greyfriars Hall, seating about 2000. Many smaller halls, and three public baths converted into gymnasias, may be hired.

Playing Fields.—Pitches in public recreation grounds are available, at

a charge. Many of the large business firms have well-equipped grounds of their own. The playgrounds of a number of schools are opened after school hours for the use of the scholars as play centres. With regard to general facilities, it is considered that inadequate provision is made in Nottingham, as compared with many other towns of the same size.

Leaders.—Helpers and leaders are mostly drawn from Welfare workers, teachers, Church members, and leisured women. A few students at University College help the clubs.

Training.—There are no permanent facilities for training club leaders. A short Training Course was arranged this autumn, with a series of talks and informal discussions every Friday evening for six weeks. The subjects were :

1. The Girl and her Needs.
2. Club Programmes.
3. Physical Work in Clubs.
4. Handicrafts.
5. Dramatic Work.
6. The Spiritual Side of Club Work.

Several clubs have expressed their willingness to take trainees for practical experience. Other training courses are being arranged for the coming year.

Publicity.—Hitherto no publicity on a wide scale has been attempted, although the Union functions have been reported in the Press, and the Chairman and others have made appeals at meetings, *e.g.* monthly luncheon of the local branch of the National Council of Women. For the past year, however, efforts have been made to advertise the needs of the clubs in many ways, and more will be done in this direction in the future. Voluntary organisations are being visited and circularised : Toc H, L.W.H., Adult Schools, religious bodies, etc. Union activities are being communicated to the local Press, and very good reports were given of the Annual Meeting in October and the programme of winter events. Much useful publicity is hoped for in connection with the Pageant. An appeal for funds was sent out recently to business firms and many private individuals in the city.

Unemployed.—Unemployment (for women and girls) does not present an urgent problem in this area. There is an Unemployed Workers' Association, but nothing is done for women except the running of garment-mending classes.

Special Needs.—Outlying housing estates need clubs, also some densely populated areas in the City. Every effort is being made by the Nottingham Union to meet this need, but it is severely handicapped by lack of funds. It is difficult to attract the "rougner" type of girl. Different clubs would seem to be advisable ; many girls want only dancing. A big mixed club or social centre would perhaps meet the need.

OXFORD

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total Population, 80,540 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	34,072
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	12,357
Do. Unoccupied	21,715

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	6,560
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants) .	1,439
Professional occupations	1,355
Clerks and typists	1,242
Makers of textile goods and articles of dress	668
Makers of, and workers in, paper and cardboard	196
Metal workers	121

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14.	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	309	212	292	792	1,605
2. Students etc. (included in 1)	202	133	161	476	972
3. Occupied	209	380	1,073	1,895	3,557
4. Out of work (included in 3)		120			120
5. Total population	518	592	1,365	2,687	5,162

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	253	156	172	1,994	2,575
2. Students etc. (included in 1)	223	140	158	1,959	2,480
3. Occupied	228	359	1,021	1,916	3,524
4. Out of work (included in 3)		116			116
5. Total population	481	515	1,193	3,910	6,099

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	2	98
2. G.L.B.	1	10
3. Y.W.C.A.	1	92
4. Girl Guides	{ R. 9 G. 30 B. 25	{ R. 149 G. 534 B. 328
5. Clubs affiliated to the J.O.C. and Federation (including units of organisations 1-4)	13	519

A careful analysis of the attendances of girls at clubs and at Evening Institutes, in 1929-30, showed that 20 per cent. of the ex-elementary school girls aged 14-18 were enrolled at Evening Institutes; 26 per cent. belonged to clubs or to the Guides. It was calculated that 35 per cent. of the girls (as contrasted with 40 per cent. of the boys) were more or less effective members of either clubs or Institutes. The proportion was about the same, despite marked changes in the distribution of the population in the winter of 1933-34.

CLUB PROVISION AND NEEDS

Report sent in by Miss C. V. Butler, Oxford

Organisation.—There is close co-operation between the 13 small clubs, affiliated to the Oxford Federation, and there is effective goodwill between clubs and the well-established Girl Guide Organisation, with almost complete absence of overlapping. Meetings of the local J.O.C. help to keep the different organisations for boys and girls in touch with each other.

The Clubs Federation is carried on by a standing council of club leaders, with an "outside" chairman and treasurer and a (part-time) secretary; and by a members' council, consisting of two members elected yearly from each club. The latter is mainly advisory and is consulted on plans under consideration by the leaders' council. It has, however, control of some small funds of its own, and manages, with a little help, its own hockey-club, dances and local members' conference. As far as possible, it is encouraged to undertake increased responsibility (for which it shows, as yet, no marked desire).

Each council meets three times a year regularly; more often if required.

Club activities.—Most clubs (20-50 members per evening's attendance) meet on one or two evenings in the week only. One girls' club and one mixed club outside the Federation are open six or seven nights a week. In addition to the evening meetings with games, dancing and classes for acting, singing, physical training, handwork etc., additional evening and afternoon activities are provided through the Federation for members of any of the local clubs. These consist of talks, lectures, and games evenings and in facilities for and coaching in hockey, tennis, swimming. A number of small week-end "camps" have been held near Oxford, in the open-air schoolrooms under Wytham woods, belonging to Mr R. A. ffennell's often-described educational experiment. The Federation has for a number of years arranged friendly competitions in singing, dramatics, physical training, handwork and an annual "display" of club activities. In each of the last two years a Federation service for club-members has been held in the University Church.

For a number of years, circulating boxes of books have been available from the Public Library for clubs connected with the Federation and the J.O.C. The Federation is affiliated to the Workers Educational Association, and has had one recognised W.E.A. course for club members, and, for several years, a number of small groups for the study of "citizenship" and current events.

The Federation has a Social Service Union, with quite stiff qualifications for training in "citizenship."

This is affiliated to the British Red Cross, in the intention that the Union should develop links with groups of girls in other countries.

Relation to the Education Authority.—The clubs work in close connection with the L.E.A., though with complete independence. A grant of £50-£75 per year is made to the girls' clubs through the J.O.C., as a contribution to the secretary's salary and to payment for classes in physical training; the authority provides at specially low rates the use of schoolrooms and playing fields; and its Organiser has given much help with many forms of Physical Training. Schemes for the further development of provision for the leisure of adolescents are just now under consideration by the statutory and voluntary organisations in conjunction.

Publicity.—Little is done, beyond the usual brief local Press reports of club and Federation functions. The Federation is in touch with the Employment Exchange and the schools.

Premises.—Most clubs suffer from poor club premises, which are either too small for effective P.T. work, or are shared (with no security of tenure) with other claimants for the parish hall. There is at present no room available in which all the clubs can meet satisfactorily for a display or for other joint action.

Needs :

1. A large "Youth Hall" is exceedingly badly needed.
2. There is also need of at least one more central club meeting every evening; and "something" for Sunday afternoons and evenings; and more provision for joint activities with boys' clubs. The Hadow regrouping of schools has made most of our senior elementary schools "mixed"; and a new demand is coming for "mixed" clubs or joint activities of some type.
3. Our new housing areas need fresh clubs; for Oxford is (a) developing a whole new industrial area, and (b) pursuing energetic slum clearance, which means the removal of families whose young people are definitely of club type, to remote new areas.

Here, as elsewhere, the new areas are almost wholly without provision for "community" centres. For these and for the existing clubs we need, like other Federations, more leaders, with more training, though we are just now fortunate in having a number of "trained" leaders some of whom are able to give part-time voluntary work, with several others who are experienced teachers. There is good material for leadership among (some) senior club members; and we should be glad to have more help in developing this.

[A detailed report on facilities for the use of leisure among Young People in Oxford was compiled in 1934 by Miss G. M. Johnson for the local J.O.C.]

PLYMOUTH

Statistics from Census of Occupation (published 1934)

Total Population, 208,166 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	83,456
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	21,341
Do. Unoccupied	62,115

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service, clubs, hotels, institutions	8,591
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants, excluding clerks)	4,376
Clerks and draughtsmen, typists	2,318
Makers of textile goods, articles of dress	2,033
Professional occupations (excluding clerical)	1,935

Notes on the Employment of Girls

1. Domestic service, hotels and boarding-houses. Leisure hours a difficult problem.
2. Shops and laundries. Trade Board hours, but frequent spells of overtime.
3. Soap and chemical works. 8-hour day.
4. Tailoring. Overtime, and 8-hour day.
5. Sweets, etc. Overtime, and 7-13 hours normal day.
6. Herring packing gives employment to a number of girls.

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied .	1,229	718	931	1,153	4,031
2. Students, etc. (included in 1) .	1,064	408	349	94	1,915
3. Occupied .	263	718	2,535	3,785	7,301
4. Out of work (included in 3) .	626				626
5. Total population .	1,492	1,436	3,466	4,938	11,332

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied .	1,207	636	423	204	2,470
2. Students, etc. (included in 1) .	1,121	574	344	110	2,149
3. Occupied .	281	712	2,660	5,407	9,060
4. Out of work (included in 3) .	628				628
5. Total population .	1,488	1,348	3,083	5,611	11,530

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	1	31
2. G.L.B.	2	61
3. Y.W.C.A.	2	111
4. Girl Guides	{ R. 14 G. 58 B. 50	{ R. 171 G. 1,333 B. 984
5. Clubs in Plymouth (with the exception of units of organisations 1-4)	19	—

Of Group 5 in the above Table, 14 are Church clubs, 4 are "open" clubs, and 1 is an Old Scholars' Association.

*Students admitted to Evening Institutes * (1933-34)*

Ages	Boys	Girls
14—15	116	106
15—16	188	78
16—17	245	73
17—18	280	56
18—21	248	130
Total, 14—21	1,177	443
Over 21	312	416
Total, all ages	1,489	859

* Including members of Technical Institutes, etc.

FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN PLYMOUTH

Local Investigator.—Miss D. B. Grime, Astor Institute, Plymouth.

Of the 14 Church clubs, 10 have a small membership of less than 30, 1 of 38, and 1, a Methodist Mission, has various youth groups with a total membership of 83 (excluding Guides and Brownies and including one mixed club). One other reports Guides and Brownies but no other groups, and one reports that "the girls' club was dissolved some years ago owing to lack of interest on the part of the members."

The Girl Guide Companies and G.F.S. Branches and G.L.Bs. run in connection with Churches account for a large part of the youth of the Churches. 2 Methodist Churches open for more than one night a week (1 for three, 1 for one night regularly and other nights when needed, and if desired, on wet Sundays), and 1 Church of England club opens for two nights a week; the rest open on one night only. All but 1 are for girls only, but 2 have occasional meetings or socials with the boys' club. Of the 4 "open" clubs, Virginia House is in a slum area, Barbican Club is in a fishing quarter, Park Street district is poor but not slum, and the Astor Institute is on a new estate. Virginia House and the Astor Institute each have the usual comprehensive settlement activities, and recently "Keep Fit" classes have been organised at both. Park Street has a club open in the winter only on five nights a week and Sunday afternoons for girls over fourteen. The total membership is 92. Handicrafts take a prominent place in the club activities.

Additional Institutions: Social and Educational

Church Institute Girls' Club.

Free Churches' Hostel for Women.

Deaf and Dumb School.

Swarthmore Hall and Women's Adult School.

Stonehouse Adult School Union.

Catholic Sodalties at the various Catholic Churches and the Catholic Women's League.

The Council of Social Service through its workers puts young women in touch with local clubs where necessary.

Cripples' Aid has a Handicraft Group.

There is an increasing number of Mothers' Clubs organised by the Churches.

Co-operation.—There seems to be very little co-operation between the clubs, but there is definite co-operation between the Astor Institute and Virginia House.

Premises.—On the whole Plymouth has adequate premises; Lord and Lady Astor have been most generous, and Virginia House “lets” at a very cheap fee for social organisations.

Leaders.—The social work of Plymouth is by a small band. One meets the same people on all committees.

Training.—Lack of trained leaders is, I think, the weak point. Some time ago the Secretary of the Education Committee drew up a scheme of training (Social Science).

Publicity.—It is impossible to say how publicity is obtained for young people's welfare. Virginia House, for instance, is well known in Plymouth as the City's Residential Settlement. The Press always gives good reports, and publicity is always given when needed.

READING

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total Population, 97,513 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	41,471
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	13,873
Do. Unoccupied	27,598

Main Occupation of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	4,626
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants)	1,796
Clerks, typists	1,729
Makers of textile goods	1,255
Warehouse : packers	1,220
Professional workers	1,054

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	367	201	248	407	1,223
2. Students etc. (included in 1)	256	121	120	107	604
3. Occupied	340	542	1,433	2,301	4,616
4. Out of work (included in 3)			242		242
5. Total population	707	743	1,681	2,708	5,839

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	314	149	147	94	704
2. Students etc. (included in 1)	255	136	14	76	481
3. Occupied	254	593	1,469	2,281	4,597
4. Out of work (included in 3)			282		282
5. Total population	668	742	1,616	2,375	5,401

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	1	259
2. G.L.B.	4	110
3. Girl Guides	{ R. 12 G. 22 B. 21	{ R. 143 G. 465 B. 338
4. C.A.W.G.	1	No returns
5. Other Clubs (see below)	—	—

FACILITIES IN READING

Local Investigator.—Miss M. Gibbons, Hon. Sec. of the Federation of Girls' Associations working in Reading and District.

A list of clubs in Reading and District compiled by the Juvenile Employment Officer in 1929 was brought up to date by Miss Gibbons for this investigation. Guide Companies, and Girls' Life Brigade Companies and other social groups for young people are mostly connected with the Churches. 13 of the Free Churches and 16 Church of England Churches have Fellowship groups, most of which open one night a week only. There are also two branches of the Regnal League and a branch of the C.A.W.G. The latter opens every night except Saturdays, and on Thursdays and Sundays on both afternoons and evenings.

Six clubs are associated in a Federation, 5 are girls' clubs connected with Anglican Churches (included above), and 1 is an unattached open club (the Central Girls' Club); the latter opens every week-night and on Thursday afternoons (for club members and their friends) and every day from 12.30 to 2 P.M. The Federation organises annual competitions which include needlework, dramatic reading, book study, singing, and physical training. The committee of the Central Girls' Club reports that while a few devoted helpers provide many facilities, it is a continuous struggle to get public support. Club activities might be considerably developed. The club premises need redecoration, and the club leader, who has given years of active service, would welcome a young assistant to help her with the 200 senior members and 140 junior members, nearly all of whom are engaged in some industrial work in Reading. In addition there are social clubs run by business houses, etc. Messrs Huntley & Palmer report that of the 2000 girls employed (May 1934) about

half are members of the recreation club. While the club caters primarily for outdoor amusements and exercises for which the company provides two very large sports grounds, they hope to increase the opportunity for indoor recreation when additional building takes place. The variety of recreational opportunities is illustrated by the following list :

Athletic sports.

Cricket (including Departmental competitions).

Tennis courts at both grounds. Departmental and other competitions.

Netball, including a Departmental competition with 29 teams from the works and offices.

Hockey. 3 teams and a Departmental competition.

Hiking. Rambles.

Swimming. Practice at Baths ; river races, fortnightly competition ; gala.

Table-tennis. 3 tables, practice and competitive tennis.

Shove-halfpenny competitions.

Darts competitions.

Choral concerts.

Dramatic performances.

Entertainments ; dances ; whist-drives.

Needlework competitions at shows.

Messrs Heelas Sons & Co., a large drapery stores, have a sports club which boasts some British Champions among its members.

The Pulsometer Engineering Works have a women's section of the sports club, and Messrs Burberry, Waterproof Manufacturers, have a women's cricket team.

The Co-operative Wholesale Society, Preserve Works, have a women's sports club, and the activities include physical training, cricket and hockey. Messrs Thomas, Hairdressers, have a women's hockey team, and Messrs McIlroy, Drapers, have a sports club and a dramatic section.

There are also a League of Nations Youth Group and a branch of the Toc H League of Women Helpers. Two political parties have junior groups : the Junior Imps (Conservative) and the League of Youth (Labour).

NOTES BY M. ROOFF

There would seem to be a great need for more public support for the Central Club, and several workers think Reading needs another "open" club, for while the existing clubs are doing good work amongst their members, there are a great many girls who are left outside for whom a good up-to-date club would be welcomed. There is special need for opportunities on Sunday. Sunday games and Sunday cinemas are not allowed, and "parading" is the chief outlet for many young people who are outside the influence of the Churches on Sunday evenings. (During the winter months the Reading Sunday Concerts Committee provide concerts open to all, in the Large Town Hall—a retiring collection is taken ; entrance is free.)

The immediate need is financial support to develop existing organisations ; e.g. the Central Club has schemes and new ideas which are only held up for lack of money.

ROCHDALE

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total population, 90,278 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	39,826
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	21,020
Do. Unoccupied	18,806

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Textile workers	12,331
Personal service—hotels, institutions, clubs, etc.	2,290
Other workers	1,694
Other workers (unskilled)	(1,611)
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants)	1,323
Clerks and draughtsmen ; typists	884
Makers of textile goods, and articles of dress	770
Professional workers (excluding clerks)	535

Notes on the Employment of Girls.—Rochdale is more fortunate than many other Lancashire towns in that it is not solely dependent on cotton, but has other industries offering employment to girls and women. While the majority are engaged in cotton spinning, others find employment in the slipper works, in artificial silk manufacture, and in the woollen mills (spinning and weaving). Carpet (chenille) weaving is being tried, and the Rochdale manufacturers are doing all in their power to attract others to set up new industries.

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	239	120	117	132	608
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	112	80	54	19	265
3. Occupied	333	532	1,397	2,317	4,579
4. Out of work (included in 3)			406		406
5. Total population	572	652	1,514	2,449	5,187

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	298	88	90	39	515
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	182	70	62	23	337
3. Occupied	328	488	1,376	2,084	4,276
4. Out of work (included in 3)			433		433
5. Total population	626	576	1,466	2,123	4,791

Youth Organisations (1933-34)

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	4	162
2. Girls' Guildry	3	57
3. Girl Guides	{ R. 5 G. 45 B. 28	{ R. 54 G. 849 B. 374
4. Clubs affiliated to the Union (including units of organisations 1-3)	21	691

The Church Girls' Brigade is strong but does not co-operate; there are also one or two junior mixed clubs and there is a flourishing young people's choir run by the Co-operators. Netball, hockey and cricket leagues are organised in connection with several Churches and firms.

SUMMARY OF FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN ROCHDALE

Local Investigators.—Miss Hickling, Miss Hodgson, Miss Humphries.

Co-operation.—This is strongly encouraged by the Union through its Union Choir and "Keep Fit" Class, the biennial exhibition of club work, inter-club rounders, netball, and an annual social, etc.

Premises.—The Town Hall and Champness Hall are rented at a reduced charge.

Playing Fields.—Facilities are really very good.

Leaders.—Welfare workers in the local works take an active part in club leadership, and others are drawn from teachers, Church members, leisured women, and the Toc H League of Women Helpers. There are no facilities for training in Rochdale.

Publicity.—Rochdale has been a strong advocate of greater publicity. Its Union Choir is well known. The Mayor attends an annual social. There is a biennial exhibition of club work, while occasional Press notices and American teas give publicity to Union activities.

Unemployed.—There is a social service centre for the unemployed, and the Union has offered facilities for "Keep Fit" classes.

Needs for Development.—A large proportion of young girls are not attached to any organisation, but it is difficult to find out what would attract them. The great need is for a large Central Club with a paid secretary. Leaders and helpers are wanted and closer co-operation with local authorities. Greater co-operation generally would be welcomed. The districts badly served are Milnrow, Whitworth, Newkey, and Bacup.

ST HELEN'S

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total Population, 106,793 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	37,496
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	9,841
Do. Unoccupied	27,655

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	2,924
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants)	1,789
Other workers	982
Other workers (unskilled)	(765)
Professional workers	949

St Helen's girls are on the whole willing to go into domestic service. Numbers are employed in glass making and glass bottle making. The shirt-making factories and Beecham's Pill factories also absorb a good number of girls. While unemployment is most severe among men (25 per cent.), girls and women suffer from considerable short-time working and temporary stoppage; school leavers find it difficult to get employment, and large numbers stay on at school (in June 1934 there were 500 boys and girls between 14 and 16 in the elementary schools; this was expected where families were in receipt of Public Assistance).

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	657	490	727	737	2,611
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	247	164	121	37	569
3. Occupied	240	414	1,204	1,787	3,645
4. Out of work (included in 3)			424		424
5. Total population	897	904	1,931	2,524	6,256

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	495	252	237	96	1,080
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	255	145	129	50	579
3. Occupied	402	691	2,016	2,897	6,006
4. Out of work (included in 3)			605		605
5. Total population	897	943	2,253	2,993	7,086

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	3	56
2. G.L.B.	1	13
3. Girls' Guildry	1	31
4. Girl Guides	{ R. 5 G. 22 B. 18	{ R. 88 G. 561 B. 291
5. Clubs affiliated to the Union (including 5 units of organisation 1)	12	1,124 + 120 *

* Estimated figure.

Students admitted to Evening Institutes (1933-34)

Ages	Boys	Girls
14—15	408	356
15—16	316	184
16—17	249	119
17—18	306	99
18—21	426	141
Total, 14—21	1,705	899
Over 21	329	194
Total, all ages	2,034	1,093

SUMMARY OF FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN ST HELEN'S

Local Investigator.—Mrs Blair, 1 Mansion House, Victoria Park, St Helen's.

Co-operation.—This is good in St Helen's between youth organisations and the Employment Exchanges. The Club Union organises:

- (1) An annual combined event in which all clubs take part.
- (2) A Rounders League.
- (3) Social events and concerts in which all take part or are interested.

Premises.—For joint activities, etc., accommodation is good. For very large efforts, such as a party, the Town Hall is taken, for which I understand the usual fee is payable.

Playing Fields.—These are also considered good, though there is need for extension. Besides school playgrounds, pitches in public recreation grounds and business firms' grounds, some of the clubs have their own playing fields.

Leaders.—Two large "open" clubs have salaried trained leaders. Helpers are drawn from amongst Church workers, teachers, welfare workers, and leisured women.

Training.—St Helen's co-operates in the Liverpool training scheme to a small degree.

Publicity.—This is maintained by means of the Press and public meetings.

Special Needs.—It is difficult to attract girls of the type who walk aimlessly about the streets. Outlying areas are in need of clubs ("open"), and Clock Face is a district badly served. Other needs are for teachers, leaders and helpers, better facilities for co-operation, closer touch with local authorities, and greater publicity.

SOUTHAMPTON

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total Population, 176,025 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	70,407
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	19,417
Do. Unoccupied	50,990

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	8,352
Commerce, finance, insurance (including shop assistants)	3,311
Clerks and draughtsmen : typists	2,485
Professional workers	1,572

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	907	561	782	1,086	3,336
2. Students etc. (included in 1)	439	258	268	228	1,193
3. Occupied	489	884	2,368	3,534	7,275
4. Out of work (included in 3)			582		582
5. Total population	1,396	1,445	3,150	4,620	10,611

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	648	387	323	144	1,502
2. Students etc. (included in 1)	506	311	259	93	1,169
3. Occupied	777	1,051	2,593	4,129	8,550
4. Out of work (included in 3)			809		809
5. Total population	1,425	1,438	2,916	4,273	10,052

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	3	300
2. G.L.B.	14	586
3. Y.W.C.A.	1	37
4. C.A.W.G.	1	No returns
5. Girl Guides	{ R. 11 G. 37 B. 25	{ R. 195 G. 893 B. 451
6. Clubs affiliated to the Federation (including units of organisations 1-5)	18	674

Students admitted to Evening Institutes (1933-34)

Ages	Boys	Girls
14—15	255	184
15—16	185	127
16—17	185	130
17—18	160	107
18—21	279	171
Total, 14—21	1,064	719
Over 21	277	487
Total, all ages	1,341	1,206

SUMMARY OF FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN SOUTHAMPTON

Local Investigators.—Mrs J. Blennerhassett West, Mr Neville S. Goodridge.

Co-operation.—This is encouraged through sports, annual displays, competitions, socials, demonstrations (cookery, physical training, sports), Members' Council, Federation Council, and swimming, and through J.O.C. netball and handicrafts exhibitions.

Premises.—While there are sufficient halls available for joint meetings fees are rather high. School premises are available to organisations free (but caretaker's fee).

Playing Fields.—School playgrounds are available (caretaker's fee) and two factories have their own sports grounds. (See special report on Playing Fields.)

Leaders.—These are drawn from amongst teachers, Church workers, welfare workers, and others. Many helpers are married women who give what time they can, but voluntary work in clubs is very inadequate.

Training.—There are no facilities for training leaders in the area—no department for social service at University College.

Publicity.—This is sought by publication and circulation of the Annual Report and of printed leaflets, and by Press reports of club activities.

Unemployed.—Clubs were opened for day-time use but were not used.

Need for Development.—While voluntary organisations meeting once a week are fairly numerous in the older areas of the town, there is great need for an "open" Central Club. More girls' club buildings are required to be used exclusively for members. There is a type of girl in the Dockland area who is very difficult to attract. No club seems to cater for her. For general development leaders and helpers are needed badly, and it is important that there should be better publicity. The following new areas are badly served: Millbrook, Shirley Warren, Merry Oak, and Sholing, Woolston and the whole of Totton including Eling and Testwood.

Notes on general conditions.—In a small area of Dockland, overcrowding is bad. The response to educational facilities is generally good. The average attendance at club classes sponsored by the Education Authority is 200 girls per week, the subjects taught being Physical Training and Handicrafts. Besides the organisation of netball by the J.O.C. there are several sports clubs attached to works, stores, etc. Dramatic competitions are held annually by the Federation, also choral singing competitions. Sections of the Musical Festival syllabus cater for Girls' Organisations. Cinemas and dance halls are well patronised, and the League of Health and Beauty has attracted many members. With regard to the effect of political feeling on young people's activities, while the Fascists have some influence, Labour has a club and the Junior Imperial League is existent, but the actual amount of influence on the part of these organisations is small.

SOUTHEND

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total Population, 120,093 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	56,544
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	17,992
Do. Unoccupied	38,552

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	8,442
Clerks, typists, etc.	2,921
Commerce, finance, insurance	2,642
Professional workers	1,511

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	648	554	754	669	2,625
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	457	364	429	116	1,366
3. Occupied	278	472	1,504	2,628	4,882
4. Out of work (included in 3)	288				288
5. Total population	926	1,026	2,258	3,297	7,507

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	538	425	433	145	1,541
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	461	384	376	93	1,314
3. Occupied	343	448	1,356	2,480	4,627
4. Out of work (included in 3)			315		315
5. Total population	881	873	1,789	2,625	6,168

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.L.B.	5	261
2. Girl Guides	{ R. 16 G. 34 B. 30	{ R. 264 G. 859 B. 578
3. Clubs affiliated to the Federation (including units of organisations 1 and 2)	5	254

Students admitted to Evening Institutes (1933-34)

Ages	Boys	Girls
14—15	111	92
15—16	83	70
16—17	107	64
17—18	124	78
18—21	243	118
Total, 14—21	668	422
Over 21	292	404
Total, all ages	960	826

FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN SOUTHEND

Local Investigator.—Miss G. E. Leaney, 49 Lancaster Gardens, Southend-on-Sea.

Southend as a popular seaside resort has the usual hotel service, cafés and amusements which employ large numbers of girls in seasonal work. It is also a considerable shopping and residential centre. A few factories and numerous laundries absorb the industrial workers.

I have gathered that, apart from the 5 clubs in the Federation, 1 of which is affiliated to the Federation of Working Girls' Clubs and another to the Y.W.C.A., practically nothing is being done in the way of clubs for girls. The G.L.B. is very strong and well organised, and caters well for younger girls. The Guide movement is also quite strong, and again caters for younger girls.

I understand that the local wireless works have a cabaret group and a netball team. The Co-operative Society also have a netball team. The Imps

have a local branch of average strength. All the five clubs in the Federation are eligible to any one of the specified age, even if they are Church clubs. There is scope for much consolidation and development down here. The club idea is comparatively new.

Co-operation.—Good between clubs in the Federation, but apart from this, none is known.

Premises.—There is crying need for suitable premises. Church halls are generally too booked up to be available, and there is no public hall in Southend at a reasonable figure.

Playing Fields.—There are no playing fields free of charge, except for children attending elementary schools. Pitches in public parks can be obtained, but school playgrounds are not available for club games.

Leaders.—Drawn from Old Girls' Societies of Schools, teachers, Church members, and leisured women, and some through the Townswomen's Guild.

Training.—There are no facilities for training.

Publicity.—Through Reports and Church magazines, by social functions (entertainments, sales of work), and, to a very small extent, through the Press.

Unemployed.—One social afternoon weekly, arranged during the winter months.

There is a general need for more "open," interdenominational clubs, and for leaders and helpers. The Director of Education is sympathetic. (Note good system of evening continuation classes, well attended by school leavers for a year or so.) But there is need for closer co-operation between clubs and the Education Authority. Both facilities for co-operation generally in Southend and provision of adequate premises would make for development.

STOKE-ON-TRENT

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total Population, 276,619 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over.	107,073
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	53,945
Do. Unoccupied	53,128

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Painters and decorators (including pottery painters and decorators)	15,531
Makers of brick, pottery and glass	14,657
Personal service, clubs, hotels, etc.	6,183
Other workers	4,466
Other workers (unskilled)	(4,285)
Commerce, finance, insurance (excluding clerks, including shop assistants)	4,115
Clerks, draughtsmen, typists	2,156
Professional workers	1,813
Textile goods and articles of dress	1,467
Warehouse, store, and packers	1,217

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied .	765	384	493	631	2,273
2. Students (included in 1) .	369	208	210	70	857
3. Occupied	1,456	2,054	5,465	7,645	16,620
4. Out of work (included in 3) .	1,258				1,258
5. Total population	2,221	2,438	5,958	8,276	18,893

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	789	298	280	125	1,492
2. Students	417	203	179	55	854
3. Occupied	1,503	2,137	5,363	7,281	16,284
4. Out of work	1,325				1,325
5. Total population	2,292	2,435	5,643	7,406	17,776

Stoke-on-Trent is in the peculiar position of including six towns which are spread over some 12 miles. It is estimated that approximately 75 to 80 per cent. of the girls work in the potteries, where there has been a good deal of short-time work, particularly in the unskilled processes. While girls usually find no difficulty in getting employment between 14 and 16, many are dismissed at 16, while warehouse girls are often dismissed at 18.

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	1	81
2. G.L.B.	5	170
3. Girl Guides	{ R. 7 G. 13 B. 10	R. 84 G. 285 B. 209
4. Clubs affiliated to the Union (including units of organisations 1-3)	20	840 +89*

* Estimated figure.

The City of Stoke-on-Trent Union includes some 20 clubs of all types, G.F.S. branches, G.L.B. companies, Old Scholars' Clubs, Church Clubs, a St John's Ambulance Brigade, and a Club connected with the Social Service centre.

Wedgwood's have quite flourishing club work for their girls (though so far they have not joined the Union of Girls' Clubs).

Students admitted to Evening Institutes

Ages	Boys	Girls
Under 14	344	351
14—15	465	502
15—16	304	223
16—17	320	182
17—18	320	153
18—21	714	241
Total to 21	2,467	1,652
21 and over	636	472
Total all ages	3,091	2,124

FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN STOKE-ON-TRENT

(From interviews with various local workers including Miss Moulson (Union Secretary, 1933-34), Town Hall, Hanley, Stoke.)

Needs.—The great difficulty of co-ordinating the effort to provide facilities for young people in the City of Stoke-on-Trent is largely due to economic and geographical conditions described above. It has been urged that three youth centres at least with experienced leaders in charge are needed. While a number of voluntary workers are doing valuable work in the existing clubs, many are feeling the need for trained leaders and helpers. If a full-time organiser could be appointed to arrange courses of training in club leadership and secure a panel of helpers in various crafts, etc., it would put club development on a sound basis and secure the co-operation which is at present so difficult of achievement.

SUNDERLAND

Statistics from Census of Occupations (published 1934)

Total population, 185,870 (1931)

Population of Females 14 years and over	7,501
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	1,240
Do. Unoccupied	6,261

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	852
(Domestic servants)	(365)
Commerce, finance, insurance	215
Shop assistants: retail trade	172
Professional occupations	131

Notes on the Employment of Girls

1. Private domestic service Hours vary.
2. Hotel and restaurant service Hours vary.
3. Distributive trades (shops) 52-64 hours per week (aver.).
4. Laundry work 43 " " "
5. Hemp spinning and weaving 47 " " "
6. Dressmaking and machining Hours vary.
7. Confectionery manufacture 48 hours per week.

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	1,006	714	1,106	1,383	4,209
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	389	183	239	96	907
3. Occupied	529	933	2,512	3,524	7,498
4. Out of work (included in 3)	899				899
5. Total population	1,535	1,647	3,618	4,907	11,707

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	774	385	279	181	1,589
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	474	224	132	95	925
3. Occupied	772	1,345	3,335	4,645	10,097
4. Out of work (included in 3)	2,389				2,389
5. Total population	1,516	1,730	3,614	4,826	11,686

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	2	59
2. Girls' Guildry	2	76
3. G.L.B.	1	35
4. Y.W.C.A.	1	243
5. Girl Guides	R. 4 G. 42 B. 30	R. 57 G. 903 B. 541
6. Clubs affiliated to the Union (including units of organisations 1-5)	33	1000 *

* Estimated figure.

SUMMARY OF FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN SUNDERLAND

Local Investigator.—Miss F. M. Burnett (Club Union Secretary), 33 Adolphus Street, Whitburn, Sunderland.

Co-operation.—There is very little at present, but the Union is encouraging this.

Playing Fields.—School playgrounds and a pitch in public recreation grounds are available.

Leaders.—Leaders and helpers are drawn from amongst teachers, Church members, and leisured women, and from the Colleges.

Training.—There are no facilities for training at present, but this could be arranged to meet the demand.

Publicity.—This is secured through the local Press, the Empire Day Demonstration, and the production of local pageants.

Unemployed.—Except for girls' clubs, no special steps are taken with regard to unemployed women and girls.

Special Needs.—There is great need for development of club work in every district; more "open" clubs are needed and better facilities for co-operation, closer touch with local authorities, better publicity, teachers, leaders and helpers, premises, playing fields, holiday homes, adaptation of programme, and premises to meet the needs of unemployed women and girls, and club facilities for young married women.

Factory and domestic workers from 16 years upwards need special consideration.

WALLSEND BOROUGH (44,582)

(From a memorandum sent in by a local Guider)

(cf. Newcastle)

"Wallsend has few leisured people; all who can, move out to other residential areas." Girls work mostly in domestic service and in shops, and in the toffee works, ropery and laundries.

Youth Organisations

Type of Club	No. of Clubs or Companies	Total Membership
1. G.F.S.	1	95+
2. G.L.B.	2	73
3. Girl Guides	R. 2	R. 33
	G. 10	G. 213
	B. 9	B. 190

FACILITIES AND NEEDS

Co-operation.—Very poor. Little community life.

Premises.—There is a Memorial Hall, but in general there is a lack of halls. Most meetings have to take place in Church halls, which have to be let to make money.

Playing Fields.—Limited space at Holy Cross, free. School yards can be used free when a responsible person is in charge.

Leaders.—There is a great lack of leaders. A few are drawn from amongst teachers and Church members.

Unemployed.—At Northumberland House, in the east end of the borough, classes are being held in dressmaking and thrift crafts. It is hoped to start a "Keep Fit" class soon and cookery. There is also a dramatic group (mixed).

Needs.—There is a great need for concerted action to stimulate the development of youth organisations. A Y.W.C.A. club failed (for lack of support), and the Tyneside Council of Social Service is having uphill work to get local support.

At Willington Quay an Institute, having a large room not always in use, might be available for the development of girls' work which is so greatly needed.

The great need is for leaders and helpers. While the Churches are doing work amongst their own members, there is still a large number not touched at all by these organisations. High Street is usually almost unpassable with young people at night.

SOUTH WALES

(Extracts from 1931 Census of Occupations, published 1934)

GLAMORGAN

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied .	9,097	7,461	11,721	14,039	42,318
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	3,784	2,302	2,355	1,224	9,665
3. Occupied	1,598	3,216	10,097	16,103	31,014
4. Out of work (included in 3)	3,414				3,414
5. Total population	10,695	10,677	21,818	30,142	73,332

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied .	6,694	3,806	4,002	2,179	16,681
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	4,362	2,403	2,571	1,284	10,620
3. Occupied	4,355	7,667	20,234	29,876	62,132
4. Out of work (included in 3)	8,950				8,950
5. Total population	11,049	11,473	24,236	32,055	78,813

YOUTH AND LEISURE

RHONDDA VALLEY

Total population of Females 14 years and over	47,906
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	5,484
Do. Unoccupied	42,422

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	1,186	1,011	1,650	1,841	5,688
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	446	239	227	80	992
3. Occupied	83	183	569	880	1,715
4. Out of work (included in 3)			226		226
5. Total population	1,269	1,194	2,219	2,721	7,403

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	822	411	416	228	1,877
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	527	277	266	145	1,215
3. Occupied	584	1,051	2,758	3,704	8,097
4. Out of work (included in 3)			863		863
5. Total population	1,406	1,462	3,174	3,932	9,974

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	2,361
Commerce, finance and insurance (including shop assistants)	1,189
Professional occupations	1,151

CARDIFF

Total Population, 223,648 (1931)

Total population of Females 14 years and over	89,740
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	27,700
Do. Unoccupied	62,040

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	1,199	919	1,154	1,470	4,742
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	616	447	386	267	1,716
3. Occupied	649	1,140	3,233	4,945	9,967
4. Out of work (included in 3)			965		965
5. Total population	1,848	2,059	4,387	6,415	14,709

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	866	559	605	399	2,429
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	665	441	439	288	1,833
3. Occupied	869	1,297	3,374	5,119	10,659
4. Out of work (included in 3)	1,665				1,665
5. Total population	1,735	1,856	3,979	5,518	13,088

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	11,128
Commerce, finance and insurance	4,769
Clerks, draughtsmen and typists	3,574
Professional workers	2,268
Makers of textile goods	2,117
Others workers	967
Other workers (unskilled)	(754)
Food, drinks and tobacco	734

(Factory work includes cigar, biscuit and sweet manufacture, and tinning.)

NEWPORT

Total Population, 89,198 (1931)

Total population of Females 14 years and over	34,606
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	9,079
Do. Unoccupied	25,527

Juvenile Population.—Occupations (and unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	527	438	601	728	2,294
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	283	174	145	50	652
3. Occupied	163	365	1,162	1,693	3,383
4. Out of work (included in 3)	356				356
5. Total population	690	803	1,763	2,421	5,677

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	487	252	237	83	1,059
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	364	156	153	43	716
3. Occupied	255	500	1,431	2,192	4,378
4. Out of work (included in 3)	677				677
5. Total population	742	752	1,668	2,275	5,437

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	4,188
Commerce, finance, etc. (including shop assistants)	1,786

SWANSEA

Total Population, 164,825 (1931)

Total population of Females 14 years and over	64,378
Do. Occupied (including those out of work)	15,103
Do. Unoccupied	49,295

Juvenile Population.—Occupations and (unemployment) in age-groups

Girls	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	1,151	951	1,518	1,829	5,449
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	513	294	297	195	1,299
3. Occupied	199	483	1,732	2,789	5,203
4. Out of work (included in 3)	572				572
5. Total population	1,350	1,434	3,250	4,618	10,652

Boys	14	15	16 & 17	18-20	Total
1. Not gainfully occupied	953	585	615	273	2,426
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	620	310	330	156	1,416
3. Occupied	396	840	2,422	3,897	7,555
4. Out of work (included in 3)	1,581				1,581
5. Total population	1,346	1,425	3,037	4,172	9,980

Main Occupations of Females 14 years and over

Type of Occupation	Number engaged
Personal service	6,519
Commerce, finance and insurance (including shop assistants)	3,207
Professional occupations	1,420
Clerks, typists, etc.	1,281
Makers of textile goods	967

Units of National Youth Organisations

Type of Club	CARDIFF		NEWPORT		SWANSEA	
	Number of Clubs	Member-ship	Number of Clubs	Member-ship	Number of Clubs	Member-ship
1. G.F.S.	2	No returns.	5	204	7	58+
2. G.L.B.	5	185	2	136	—	—
3. Y.W.C.A.	1	142	3	193	1	115
4. Girl Guides	R. 16	R. 196	R. 1	R. 46	R. 3	R. 41
	G. 70	G. 1,485	G. 23	G. 554	G. 26	G. 553
	B. 61	B. 1,131	B. 16	B. 271	B. 19	B. 286

(For clubs in the Cardiff and District Federation and the South Wales Coalfields Federation, see pp. 230 and 231.)

NOTES BY M. ROOFF

There is great need for development of club work in South Wales, particularly for the adolescent girl. It is an area of heavy industries, and there is little unemployment amongst women and girls, but they are severely affected by the general depression and the unemployment or short-time working of their men folk.

Domestic work (daily and resident) and nursing, millinery, dressmaking, and serving in shops provide some employment, but a great many girls are kept at home to help with the younger members of the family until they are older, when they go away to service.

Owing largely to the physical features of the country with its hinterland of narrow mining valleys and mountain ridges opening on the south to Newport, Cardiff and Swansea, co-operation has not been strongly developed in the past. The towns reflect this individualistic spirit in many ways, and so far Cardiff is the only one which has succeeded through its J.O.C. and Federation of Girls' Clubs in co-ordinating the work amongst young people. In Swansea four clubs are striving to carry on their individuality within a stone's-throw of one another, but no one knows anything of its neighbour's activities. There is great need for more "open" clubs, particularly in the poorer parts of the town (*e.g.* the Strand). If a full-time club union secretary were free to organise club work, she would secure the support of various broad-minded and forward-looking public workers, who have the welfare of the young people at heart. The Soroptimists and other women's groups would probably be ready to aid such an effort, and effective co-ordination would draw in helpers and leaders and bring the work to the notice of the public.

In Newport, similarly, there is very little co-ordination. The Education Authority would most likely look sympathetically on an appeal for aid if it came from a federated body of clubs, and a club union secretary free to explore all sources of help would have great opportunity in Newport for gaining the support of women's groups (*e.g.* the Women Citizens' Association).

The efforts to link up the clubs in the mining valleys have met with a good response and the provision of their own holiday camp has been much appreciated. The headquarters of the South Wales Coalfields' Federation of Girls' Clubs, centred in Pontypridd, is fairly accessible for the Rhondda and Merthyr valleys, but not for the Rhymney and other eastern valleys. As all the valleys run roughly north-south, with few transverse roads, intercommunication is particularly difficult. If another organiser could be free to develop the Rhymney and Eastern valleys (possibly with her headquarters at Newport), she could co-operate with the present South Wales Coalfields' Federation Secretary in pressing forward towards the expansion which is so urgently desired.

Finally, there would be greater opportunities if Union secretaries were available in each town (Swansea, Cardiff and Newport) to link up the work of the whole area in a South Wales Division. At present there is some confusion and overlapping between the two existing unions. As the Coalfields Federation affiliates only "open" clubs for the 14 to 18 age-groups, one or two of the coalfields' clubs have preferred to affiliate to the Cardiff and District Federation. Closer co-ordination between the two unions would prevent any possibility of misunderstanding and make for a good spirit in inter-club activities, while the combined effort to arrange training courses for leaders would fulfil an urgent need for both unions.

The South Wales and Monmouthshire Council of Social Service, working largely amongst adults, and the League of the Hope of Wales (Urdd Gabaith Cymru) working amongst young people from 8 to 15, are doing much to co-ordinate activities, and any organiser of club work would find great opportunity for co-operation with these two bodies. The League of the Hope of Wales is playing an important part in encouraging a wise use of leisure as well as in rousing a sense of pride in national culture. Its activities include physical training, singing and drama.

The Churches, both the Church in Wales and the Free Churches, have played a great part in the lives of the young people of South Wales and religious influence is still strong.

Mr J. Penry Thomas (an Honorary Secretary of the Cardiff Evangelical Council and Secretary of the East Glamorgan Congregational Association) has sent in a memorandum on "Social work done by the Churches among women and young girls in South Wales (and East Glamorgan in particular)." He notes the prominent part taken by women and girls in the life of the Churches to-day as compared with twenty-five years ago, when it was not customary in Wales to appoint Deaconesses (as was done in certain Churches in England). He points out the strength of the Sisterhood Movement whose members engage in social work which includes the organisation of recreational activities. Many of the Churches provide free accommodation and give financial aid towards the activities of their youth groups, which include units of the various National Societies as well as the Church Fellowships. He stresses the recent rise of Youth Movements in connection with the Denominations; "these have come into being as a result of interest in social conditions or denominational zeal. These movements are local, but are combined movements of the young people of the Churches in a particular area. Young women play an important part in these and often are the keenest folk." Mr Penry Thomas goes on to describe the effects of Welsh native culture and Welsh education on the general intelligence of the people who have had a

long tradition of democracy. He criticises the popular articles on "Welsh girls in London" and urges the need to remove the false impression given.

While remarking on the good results of the development of secondary schools in Wales, he is concerned by the fact that "hundreds coming out of the University, Technical Schools, Secondary Schools and the Elementary Schools have nothing to do. Here is the problem. What can be done for them? They become bored with the humdrum existence of being unemployed. They seek life in all sorts of things—cinemas, dance-halls, whist-drives—some even in dog-racing and gambling—but my experience is that few of these who become absorbed in these things are the girls of the Churches. . . . I am convinced that with a new vision and enthusiasm and sufficient financial assistance, the Churches could provide much of the accommodation and workers necessary to save the rising generation by guarding their leisure hours. The need is for trained and sympathetic leaders. Could not your Council train them?—but let them be girls from our Churches—in full sympathy with Church work, and willing to co-operate with the officers of the Church. I regret to find very often that those who become absorbed in social work develop a blind spot and fail to see the difficulties under which the Churches work and misinterpret the lack of resources for the lack of sympathy."

The work of the Settlements.—Settlements with a nucleus of voluntary helpers have been established in several of the valleys and most of them include girls' club work in their many activities. At *Maes-yr-Haf* in the Rhondda valley and *Merthyr Tydfil* in the Merthyr valley, *Bargoed* in the Rhymney valley and *Oxford House* at Risca (the easternmost centre), helpers and leaders take part in club work. Bargoed and Merthyr both appeal urgently for extension of their work. Merthyr particularly needs a trained club leader. Risca has a waiting list, but owing to the lack of space it is not able to develop club work for girls as it would like. The needs of the district are given as "new clubs and qualified instructors in handicrafts, physical instruction and drama. Classes in this area are so far apart that co-ordination in any way is difficult. Our own work is hindered by lack of finance, helpers, premises and equipment, but especially of premises and helpers."

The various clubs in the valleys which sent in questionnaires all reported inadequate premises, and all needed help towards equipment, several mentioning specifically a sewing-machine and material for needlework. Several reported the difficulty of keeping up interest without opportunities for individual work, such as handicrafts, and for combined social activities.

Several club leaders who were finding it difficult to keep the interest of girls over 14, asked for opportunities for training. In reply to the question upon what lines development was most needed, the answers were "to get someone to show us really how to run a club properly." "Some girls do not know what they want, and the few regular and faithful leaders find it hard and disheartening. But after all, we as leaders are not trained."

But while some leaders were finding it difficult to keep their girls interested, one or two centres reported a waiting list, *e.g.* a centre in the Rhondda valley, which feels that the greatest need of the girls in the Pentre area is for a "Club House" of their own. The girls show great eagerness to join the existing club, which is limited "by inadequate premises due to lack of finance . . . once established in a permanent building, we will be able to work up funds for equipment, etc., and obtain the services of qualified people for crafts and activities."

SOUTH WALES COALFIELDS' FEDERATION OF GIRLS' CLUBS

FACILITIES AND NEEDS

Investigator.—Miss M. E. George, Federation Secretary.

The Federation includes clubs widely scattered over the South Wales mining valleys, principally in the Rhondda (10), Merthyr (7) and Rhymney (2) Valleys. The other 6 are scattered over the eastern valleys.

Of the 25 clubs affiliated all (under the constitution) are "open." The age limit for the Federation is 14 to 18 years, and a few clubs have formed junior clubs, but these are unable to affiliate. Twenty-two clubs meet only one night a week, 2 meet three nights and 1 meets two nights a week. No mixed clubs are affiliated and, apart from the youth of the members, it would seem to be less acceptable in South Wales, particularly in the valleys, to have joint activities of boys and girls.

Co-operation.—By Annual Inter-club Rally, club visits and the annual holiday Camp at Boverton.

Premises and Playing Fields.—A difficulty in the valleys, varying from place to place. Where clubs meet in the school hall they are usually granted use of the playground free of charge. Only in a very few cases are public recreation grounds available. Occasionally a hall is lent by the Welfare Club.

Leaders.—Drawn from workers at social service centres, teachers, Church members, welfare workers, and leisured women. No opportunities for training, except through the Federation.

Publicity.—By means of wireless appeal, newspaper articles and general co-operation with the Press and by contact with people interested in Welfare work.

Needs for Development.—More clubs, especially those open on several nights, are generally needed. Closer co-operation, together with greater publicity, is necessary, and closer touch with education authorities. Teachers, leaders and helpers are needed as urgently as premises. Better facilities for physical training and facilities for educational work, such as lectures, lantern lectures and talks, are asked for.

Special Needs.—The Rhymney valley is very badly served, as are the Mid and West Glamorgan valleys. In these places, there are numerous villages, mainly on the "dole," with little or no provision for educational recreation for the girls.

The girls between the ages of 15 to 18 years seem to be the most backward. There is special need in the valleys to attract these girls, as bad counter-attractions abound.

General Remarks.—"Bad housing conditions are general, but in spite of this, probably owing to a strong religious feeling in the valleys, the good influence of the home is never entirely absent. Mothers try their utmost, even in small insanitary homes, to do the best for their children.

"Educational facilities, apart from schools, are few, and the response is not good.

"Netball and hockey clubs are run in some areas, but usually girls cannot afford to play. Tennis is available in summer. Dramatic societies are very popular, and are usually mixed. Choral singing is usually confined to the Church choirs.

"The Cinema is extremely popular, and most girls and boys manage to go once or twice a week. Cheap dances at 3d. and 6d. are well attended, and are one form of bad influence which the clubs hope to counteract.

"Political feeling is very strong, but does not affect young people's recreational facilities."

NOTES BY M. ROOFF

The provision of a social centre at Pontypridd which would serve also as the club Union headquarters, would meet a great need (at present, there is no girls' club at Pontypridd, for lack of premises). A fund from which clubs could draw towards equipment and extension of premises would enable existing clubs to develop their work, while trained club leaders and opportunities for training for voluntary workers would be welcomed in the valleys.

CARDIFF AND DISTRICT FEDERATION OF GIRLS' CLUBS

Local Investigator.—Miss G. M. Jones (Federation Secretary), 65 Coveney Street, Cardiff.

The Cardiff and District Federation of Girls' Clubs includes Penarth and Cardiff and part of East Glamorgan and Monmouth (excluding the area covered by the Coalfields' Federation, but including one or two clubs in the mining valleys which are affiliated to the Cardiff and District Federation).

Total number of clubs, 16.—F.W.G.C., 7; G.F.S., 4; G.L.B., 1; Y.W.C.A., 1; Church clubs, 3.

Total membership, 957.—F.W.G.C., 273; G.F.S., 234; G.L.B., 252; Y.W.C.A., 103; Church clubs, 95.

SUMMARY OF FACILITIES AND NEEDS IN CARDIFF

Co-operation.—Inter-club visits arranged by leaders; a training day for club members and leaders. Inter-club competitions are arranged by the Union Secretary.

Premises, for Union activities.—Two of the affiliated clubs have a hall which is lent free for Union activities. The Y.W.C.A. hall is small, but it has the advantage of being Central. East Moors Institute has a larger hall and a well-equipped stage. It also has a cinema (silent film) apparatus.

Playing Fields.—Nothing is available in the centre of the town. Pitches in public parks are all booked up at times when the girls would be free, e.g. Saturday afternoons. School playgrounds have been used, e.g. in Splott, on application to the Director of Education.

Leaders.—Both leaders and helpers are drawn from amongst Church members, leisured women, Toc H League of Women Helpers, and students who help with specific activities.

Training.—Barry Training College could perhaps be secured during the vacation time for a short course: also there are several college hostels in Cardiff where people could be housed. The Training Department of Cardiff University College would be a good source of supply for lectures, etc.

Needs.—General need for more clubs and club premises, and playing fields are also urgently needed. Closer touch with local authorities, better facilities for co-operation, and greater publicity are wanted. There are some

districts which are particularly badly served—in Cardiff, the dock areas. A student of the Cardiff University College ran a successful girls' club during the summer, but this has had to be discontinued. Canton area needs bigger premises. The new suburbs are unprovided for, and children are teeming there. Outside Cardiff, only 4 per cent. of the unemployed are catered for. No premises are available for the girls' clubs; the boys are better served.

Needs of special groups.—Shop girls who have late hours, yet need social and recreational facilities. Young married women need clubs.

NOTES BY M. ROOFF

There are great opportunities for the development of club work in co-operation with the J.O.C. and the Education Authority in Cardiff. Excellent co-ordinating work between the clubs affiliated to the Federation is being done by an honorary secretary who is already fully occupied with her own work at the university and in a large "open" club. A salaried full-time organising secretary would be welcomed who could carry forward the work of co-operation and organise the development of club work generally. The provision of new clubs, particularly in the dock district and in the suburbs, is the most urgent need when funds make expansion possible.

STATISTICS

PART II. SECTION III

TABLE I.

NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS, 1934¹

UNITS AND MEMBERSHIP IN COUNTIES

COUNTY	G.F.S.*		G.L.B.		GIRLS' GUILDRY		F.W.G.C.		Y.W.C.A.* §		GIRL GUIDES ||		CAMP FIRE GIRLS ¶		C.A.W.G.*	
	Branches	Members	Companies	Members	Companies	Members	Clubs	Members	Branches	Members	Companies	Members	Units	Members	Branches	Members
NORTHERN.																
Cheshire	61		9		3	119	..	..	4	938	836	14,641	4	48	6	
Cumberland	33		1		..	..	1	42	1	185	180	3,575	..	..	..
Durham	50		31		4	179	..	..	4	1,184	596	12,330	..	..	..
Lancashire	386		48		37	1,397	1	17	5	380	3,333	66,206	7	84	16	
Northumberland	23		15		2	80	..	..	10	2,370	405	8,613	13	133	..	
Westmorland	8		..		..	..	..	..	1	388	86	1,310	..	..	..
Yorkshire	152		92		4	179	3	277	9	2,939	2,361	40,422	10	121	9	
MIDLAND.																
Derbyshire	35		25		..	..	..	..	3	287	325	6,433	1	12	2	
Gloucestershire	49		14		1	42	1	24	3	387	518	8,851	2	20	9	
Herefordshire	18		2		..	..	..	..	2	176	94	1,508	..	..	..
Leicestershire	54		22		12	451	..	..	4	587	249	4,507	..	..	1	
Northamptonshire	29		23		..	..	..	..	2	327	267	4,631	..	..	..
Nottinghamshire	33		9		..	..	..	..	2	575	409	8,495	10	118	1	
Shropshire	20		2		2	57	..	..	..	..	208	3,345	..	..	3	
Staffordshire	67		31		1	..	..	..	5	414	630	11,974	28	371	4	
Warwickshire	80		52		..	..	..	..	15	1,882	946	15,751	3	37	3	
Worcestershire	26		8		1	25	..	..	2	482	280	4,944	2	27	3	
EASTERN.																
Cambridgeshire	44		3		..	..	1	20	1	220	137	2,493	..	..	1	
Huntingdonshire	5		..		..	..	..	..	..	..	46	707	..	..	..
Lincolnshire	33		12		1	..	..	..	..	..	318	5,916	2	23	..	
Norfolk	36		8		..	..	..	..	2	244	314	5,015	..	..	3	
Rutland	2		..		..	..	..	..	..	..	14	202	..	..	..
Suffolk	29		10		..	..	1	220	1	275	297	5,246	..	..	8	
SOUTH WESTERN.																
Cornwall	38		1		1	57	..	..	1	70	186	2,975	1	18	..	
Devonshire	55		9		1	19	1	48	5	677	525	9,021	..	..	9	
Dorsetshire	17		4		1	18	..	..	..	..	231	3,447	..	..	..
Somersetshire	39		7		..	..	1	40	4	205	399	6,557	..	..	..
Wiltshire	33		2		..	..	..	..	1	66	236	4,044	..	..	1	
SOUTH EASTERN.																
Bedfordshire	15		6		..	..	..	..	..	..	134	2,608	..	..	..
Berkshire	25		8		1	48	1	71	1	109	319	5,323	..	..	..
Buckinghamshire	13		2		2	78	1	60	2	117	258	4,756	..	..	..
Essex	67		62		..	..	7	587	1	39	712	13,656	10	143†	9	
Hampshire	34		41		3	72	1	48	9	749	763	14,029	..	..	5	
Isle of Wight	11		..		..	..	..	..	..	..	90	1,759	..	..	..
Hertfordshire	35		15		..	..	..	332	5	639	375	7,191	2	24	3	
Kent	98		30		3	105	3	94	4	635	1,044	19,162	..	..	11	
London	110		254		21	1,122	126	10,863†	41	7,104‡	2,854	62,527	..	..	26	
Middlesex	44		31		..	..	6	217	2	59	1,076	21,992	45	542‡	3	
Oxfordshire	15		3		..	..	1	91	2	156	227	3,236	..	..	..
Surrey	70		37		..	..	7	547	4	389	1,084	20,291	9	106	8	
Sussex	37		21		23	1,115	2	72	3	252	783	13,424	4	48	11	
Totals for England	2,027		950		124	5,163	169	13,670	161	25,406§	24,145	453,113	153	1,876	158	
WALES.																
Anglesey	7		..		..	..	..	..	2	242	21	414	..	..	..
Brecknock	13		..		..	..	..	..	..	..	13	225	..	..	..
Cardiganshire	10		..		..	..	..	..	2	101	17	274	..	..	..
Car-mar-thenshire	21		1		..	..	..	..	2	248	47	817	..	..	..
Car-mar-vonshire	16		..		..	..	..	..	1	64	105	2,153	..	..	1	
Denbighshire	11		..		..	..	..	..	..	..	83	1,473	..	..	..
Flint	10		..		1	37	..	..	1	125	72	1,110	..	..	..
Glamorganshire	55		6		..	..	..	..	3	274	451	9,010	..	..	..
Merionethshire	7		..		..	..	..	..	..	..	23	340	..	..	..
Monmouthshire	40		2		..	..	..	..	3	193	167	3,630	..	..	..
Montgomeryshire	10		..		..	..	..	..	..	..	86	562	..	..	..
Pembrokeshire	14		..		..	..	..	..	..	..	56	1,066	..	..	..
Radnorshire	6		..		..	..	..	..	..	..	14	221	..	..	..
Total for Wales	229		9		1	37	..	..	14	1,247	1,105	21,295	..	..	1	
Total for England and Wales	2,256	158,000	959	40,242	125	5,200	169	13,670	175	26,653	25,250	474,408	153	1,876	159	15,000

¹ Total membership for year 1933-34, except in the case of C.A.W.G. and G.F.S. (1932-33).

NOTE.—Officers, etc., excluded from totals of G.L.B., Girls' Guildry, F.W.G.C. and Girl Guides.

* Total membership (including leaders, helpers, etc.).

† Including London.

‡ Including Greater London Boroughs.

§ Excluding 143 members of 3 Scattered Branches, 110 Committee members and 859 members of the Campers' Union. Grand Total, 27,765.

|| Excluding Isle of Man and Channel Isles. Total for England and Wales (including Guiders, etc.), 518,019.

¶ Excluding 800 Bluebirds. Total membership, 2676.

TABLE II.

LOCAL UNIONS AFFILIATED TO THE N.C.G.C., 1935**

MEMBERSHIP AND TYPE OF CLUB

UNION	TOTAL NUMBER OF CLUBS	TOTAL MEMBER- SHIP	UNITS OF NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS										OTHER LOCAL CLUBS									
			F.W.G.C.		G.F.S.		GIRLS' GUILD		G.L.B.		Y.W.C.A.		GIRL GUIDES		WORKS		CHURCH		OTHER		UNSPECI- FIED	
			Clubs	Membership	Branches	Membership	Companies	Membership	Companies	Membership	Branches	Membership	Companies	Membership	Clubs	Membership	Clubs	Membership	Clubs	Membership	Clubs	Membership
LONDON.																						
East Ham J.O.C.	12	239	3	?																		
Kensington Federation	16	700																				
London Diocesan Girls' Fellowship	22	482	10	1,171	7	361																
London Girls' Club Union	96	8,583																				
Paddington Federation	8	463																				
St Pancras Federation	18	891																				
Shoreditch Federation	11	1,023	2	457	2	?																
Social Institutes' Union	57†	1,089																				
Stepney Association	21	2,835	2	128																		
West Ham J.O.C.	13	611	1	148	1	35																
PROVINCES.																						
Birkenhead Union	18	966																				
Birmingham Union	76+1*	{ 3,710 675* }																				
Bolton Union	2	789																				
Boothle Union	5	388																				
Bristol Association	20	2,062																				
Burnley Union	3	94																				
Chester Federation	9	345																				
Durham Union	8	267																				
Hull Federation	11	1,803																				
Leicester Federation	2	244																				
Liverpool Union	108+19*	{ 5,852 (2,014) (570)* }																				
Manchester, Salford and District Union	35	3,250																				
Norfolk and Norwich Federation	9	418																				
Nottingham and Notts. Union	41	1,827																				
Oxford J.O.C.	13	510																				
Rochdale and District Union	21	691																				
St Helen's Union	12	{ 1,124 (120) }																				
Southampton Federation	18	674	2	232	2	51																
Southend Federation	5	254	1	34																		
Stoke-on-Trent Union	20	{ 840 (89) }																				
*Sunderland Union, etc.	33	[1,000]																				
Swindon Union	6	186																				
Union of Scattered Clubs	4	277																				
Wallasey Union	10	573																				
Worthing Union	8	264																				
WALES.																						
Cardiff and District Federation	16	967	7	273	4	234																
South Wales Coalfields' Federation	22	703																				
Total for England and Wales	809+20*	51,061	32	2,443	84	3,166	13	700	14	669	22	2,761	25	890	43	4,006	299	15,824	222	16,936	55+20*	3,666

** Where later figures not available 1935-34 figures inserted in Italics.

† Including 10 clubs in other Unions.

‡ Sunderland returns include clubs not yet affiliated. Total at present in Union=9 clubs, 399 members.

[] Estimated figure.

§ Including Church and other clubs.

* Associates.

TABLE III.

LOCAL UNIONS AFFILIATED TO THE N.C.G.C., 1935**
CLUB NIGHTS PER WEEK AND MEMBERSHIP IN AGE GROUPS

UNION	TOTAL NUMBER OF CLUBS	NIGHTS OPEN PER WEEK				TOTAL MEMBER- SHIP	MEMBERSHIP IN AGE-GROUPS			
		1 Night	2 Nights	3 or more Nights	Open as a Club on Sunday		Under 14	14-18	18 and over	Ages Unspecified
LONDON.										
East Ham J.O.C. . .	12	10	2	..	..	239	20	132	87	..
Kensington Federation .	16	11	..	5	2	700	NO	RETURNS		700
London Diocesan Girls' Fellowship . . .	22	21	1	..	1	482	113	169	200	..
London Girls' Club Union	96	28	16	42	12+2	8,583	(14-17)	(over 17)		
Paddington Federation .	8	5	..	3	..	463	2,070	2,632	3,881	..
						139	153	171		..
St Pancras Federation .	18	6	4	8	1	891	(under 16)	(over 16)		
Shoreditch Federation .	11	8	..	3	2	1,023	385	506		..
Social Institutes' Union .	57†	9	NO	RETURNS	..	1,680	451	572		..
Stepney Association .	21	9	..	12	..	2,335	420		1,269	..
West Ham J.O.C. . .	13	12	..	1	..	611	1,335	910	590	..
							..	394	217	..
PROVINCES.										
Birkenhead Union . .	18	14	3	1	1	966	(under 16)	(over 16)		
							469	497		..
Birmingham Union . .	76+1*	48	13	14	1+1	{ 3,710 675* }	(under 16)	(over 16)		
							{ 1,999 630* }	{ 1,711 45* }		..
Bolton Union . . .	2	1	..	1	1	789	307	246	236	..
Bootle Union . . .	5	3	..	..	..	388	209	135	44	..
Bristol Association . .	20	10	5	5	3	2,062	320	263	903	576
Burnley Union . . .	3	..	NO	RETURNS	..	94	6	24	35	29
Chester Federation . .	9	8	..	1	..	345	106	89	150	..
							(under 16)	(over 16)		
Durham Union . . .	8	7	1	..	..	267	161	106		..
Hull Federation . . .	11	2	4	5	2	1,803	362	510	861	70
Leicester Federation . .	2	1	..	1	1	244	50	56	133	..
Liverpool Union . . .	108+19 *	..	NO	RETURNS	..	{ 5,852 [2,014] [570]* }	1,892	2,099	1,861	{ [570]* [2,014] }
Manchester, Salford and District Union . . .	35	24	..	11	2	3,250	1,223	942	1,085	..
Norfolk and Norwich Federation . . .	9	8	..	1	1	418	157	151	110	..
Nottingham and Notts. Union . . .	41	24	10	7	1	1,827	..	815	1,012	..
Oxford J.O.C. . . .	13	10	2	1	1	519	67	215	237	..
Rochdale and District Union . . .	21	..	NO	RETURNS	..	691	[199]	[245]	[247]	..
St Helen's Union . . .	12	4	6	2	..	{ 1,124 [120] }	[466]	[403]	255	[120]
Southampton Federation	18	16	..	2	..	874	84	340	250	..
Southend Federation . .	5	4	..	1	1	254	..	47	207	..
Stoke-on-Trent Federation	20	17	..	3	..	{ 840 [89] }	(under 16)	(over 16)		
							338	502		[89]
†Sunderland Union, etc. .	33	..	NO	RETURNS	..	[1,000]	[288]	[354]	[358]	..
Swindon Union . . .	6	2	3	1	..	186	9	103	50	24
Union of Scattered Clubs	4	..	NO	RETURNS	..	277	[80]	[98]	[99]	..
Wallasey Union . . .	10	9	..	1	..	573	317	150	106	..
Worthing Union . . .	8	..	NO	RETURNS	..	264	..	76	188	..
WALES.										
Cardiff and District Federation . . .	16	..	NO	RETURNS	..	957	172	257	276	252
South Wales Coalfields' Federation . . .	22	19	..	3	..	703	139	514	50	..
							7,493 [7,216]	9,193 [8,870]	9,319 [8,970]	
Total for England and Wales	809+20*					51,061	[14,709]	[18,063]	[18,289]	

** Where later figures not available
1933-34 figures inserted in italics.

† Including 10 clubs in other Unions

[] Estimated figure.

* Associates.

‡ Sunderland returns include clubs not
yet affiliated. Total at present in
Union=9 clubs, 399 members.

National Societies affiliated to the N.C.G.C. and Local Unions excluding units of National Societies.				
	Total Membership	Under 14	14-18	18 and over
F.W.G.C.	13,930	5,380	4,590	3,960
G.F.S.	145,439	47,759	28,526	74,154
Girls' Guildry	5,200	3,285	1,667	248
G.L.B.	40,242	29,589	7,653	3,000
Y.W.C.A.	27,765	3,598	8,271	15,896
Local Unions (excluding units of National Societies) . . .	38,811	..	..	..
Grand Total N.C.G.C. . . (England and Wales.)	271,387	..	..	..

TABLE IV.

YOUTH HOSTELS ASSOCIATION

(England and Wales)

MEMBERSHIP AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 1934

Group or Sub-Group	Enrolments during year				Life Members previously enrolled	Total Membership 1934	Total Membership 1933
	Under 25	Over 25	Life	Total			
Birmingham . . .	1,713	641	2	2,356	4	2,360	1,870
*Cambridge . . .	78	44	..	122	4	126	..
Cambridge University .	463	31	1	495	2	497	262
Gloucester and Somerset	774	334	..	1,108	6	1,114	1,020
Hull	177	50	..	227	..	227	..
Lakeland	669	265	1	935	13	948	693
London	6,706	2,997	10	9,713	57	9,770	6,986
Manchester	4,168	1,371	3	5,542	10	5,552	3,760
Morseyside	2,949	1,090	..	4,039	10	4,049	3,462
North Midlands . . .	2,128	883	3	3,014	39	3,053	1,994
Northumberland and Tyneside	1,099	422	1	1,522	11	1,533	1,199
Oxford and Swindon .	256	116	2	374	15	389	347
Oxford University . .	374	7	1	382	1	383	403
Plymouth	187	106	1	294	1	295	231
Portsmouth	310	146	2	458	1	459	209
Scarborough	73	36	..	109	..	109	98
South Wales	498	220	..	718	1	719	674
Warwick and Northants	466	211	1	678	2	680	643
Wear, Tees and East .	1,022	368	1	1,391	30	1,421	1,122
West Riding	1,641	699	2	2,342	7	2,349	1,770
Yorkshire Central . .	202	93	..	295	..	295	188
National Office . . .	509	333	..	842	14*	856	974
Totals	26,462	10,463	31	36,956	228	37,184	27,905

Increase, 9279 or 33½% over previous year.

* Cambridge Group formed during year ; 4 Life Members being transferred from National Office.

TABLE V.

OCCUPATIONS OF JUVENILES. NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES

Compiled from 1931 Census of England and Wales

ENGLAND AND WALES

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Not gainfully occupied	180,700	59.5	145,520	47	124,872	39	81,322	25.3	171,456	24.5	78,609	11	221,197	21	46,798	4.5				
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	90,360	29	101,005	32.5	57,668	18	62,600	19	56,265	8	57,808	8.3	29,134	2.7	30,864	3				
3. Occupied . .	122,535	40.5	162,819	53	193,817	61	241,417	74.7	532,175	75.5	617,504	89	831,756	79	981,366	95.5				
4. Out of work . . (included in 3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	120,186	5	179,260	7.5
Totals (1 and 3)	303,235	100	308,339	100	318,689	100	322,739	100	703,631	100	696,113	100	1,052,953	100	1,028,164	100				

SOUTH-EAST

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Not gainfully occupied	56,228	57.5	47,754	48	39,202	37.5	29,927	29	48,365	20.5	29,373	13	63,173	17	17,845	5				
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	34,968	36	37,881	38	24,438	23.5	25,645	24.5	23,790	10	23,928	10.5	12,660	3.5	12,863	3.5				
3. Occupied . .	41,387	42.5	51,544	52	65,421	62.5	74,199	71	187,287	79.5	196,063	87	308,331	83	334,555	95				
4. Out of work . . (included in 3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31,621	4	47,517	6
Totals (1 and 3)	97,615	100	99,298	100	104,623	100	104,126	100	235,652	100	225,436	100	371,504	100	352,400	100				

TABLE V.—Continued.

NORTH I

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Not gainfully occupied	14,067	76	10,252	52.5	11,237	58	5,052	24.5	17,077	42.5	4,399	10	20,925	38	2,330	4				
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	4,342	23.5	6,154	31.5	2,665	13.5	2,948	14.5	2,562	6.5	2,329	5.5	1,421	2.5	1,169	2				
3. Occupied . .	4,518	24	9,210	47.5	8,106	42	15,577	75.5	23,092	57.5	39,283	90	34,196	62	57,343	96				
4. Out of work (included in 3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,512	5.5	18,077	12.5
Totals (1 and 3)	18,585	100	19,462	100	19,343	100	20,629	100	40,169	100	43,682	100	55,121	100	59,673	100				

NORTH II

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Not gainfully occupied	6,710	68.5	5,097	50	4,950	47.5	2,799	25.5	7,581	33.5	2,499	11	10,192	31	1,095	3				
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	2,685	27.5	3,186	31	1,552	15	1,849	16.5	1,455	6.5	1,594	7	758	2.5	483	1.5				
3. Occupied . .	3,119	31.5	5,156	50	5,511	52.5	8,246	74.5	15,071	66.5	20,389	89	22,727	69	33,714	97				
4. Out of work (included in 3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,292	5.5	6,569	8.5
Totals (1 and 3)	9,829	100	10,253	100	10,461	100	11,045	100	22,652	100	22,888	100	32,919	100	34,809	100				

TABLE V.—Continued.

NORTH III

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Not gainfully occupied	14,137	54.5	10,536	40.5	9,808	35.5	5,650	20.5	13,523	22.5	5,413	9	18,166	20	3,254	4				
2. Students, etc., (included in 1)	5,699	22	6,576	25	3,916	14	4,343	16	3,675	6	3,865	6.5	2,281	2.5	2,155	2.5				
3. Occupied . .	11,866	45.5	15,593	59.5	17,710	64.5	21,949	79.5	46,964	77.5	54,369	91	71,963	80	82,966	96				
4. Out of work . . (included in 3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,444	5	14,179	7
Totals (1 and 3)	26,003	100	26,129	100	27,518	100	27,599	100	60,487	100	59,782	100	90,129	100	86,220	100				

NORTH IV

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Not gainfully occupied	23,824	52	21,280	46.5	15,059	31	11,491	23	20,121	18	11,343	10.5	24,251	15	5,866	3.5				
2. Students, etc., (included in 1)	11,861	26	13,669	30	7,519	15.5	8,584	17	7,348	6.5	7,838	7.5	3,798	2.5	3,390	2				
3. Occupied . .	22,088	48	24,622	53.5	33,811	69	38,855	77	90,898	82	94,811	89.5	139,987	85	146,535	96.5				
4. Out of work . . (included in 3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29,142	8	36,892	10.5
Totals (1 and 3)	45,912	100	45,902	100	48,870	100	50,346	100	111,019	100	106,154	100	164,238	100	152,401	100				

TABLE V.—Continued.

MIDLAND I

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Not gainfully occupied	19,201	53	15,419	42	10,691	29	7,381	19.5	14,739	17.5	6,819	8	18,944	15.5	3,944	3.5				
2. Students, etc. . (included in 1)	9,483	26	9,363	25.5	5,024	13.5	5,469	14.5	4,765	5.5	4,854	6	2,272	2	2,274	2				
3. Occupied . .	17,072	47	21,081	58	26,367	71	30,434	80.5	68,698	82.5	75,482	92	101,882	84.5	111,614	96.5				
4. Out of work . (included in 3)									..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,762	5.5	19,966	7.5
Totals (1 and 3)	36,273	100	36,500	100	37,058	100	37,815	100	83,437	100	82,301	100	120,826	100	115,558	100				

MIDLAND II

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Not gainfully occupied	8,849	48.5	6,865	36.5	5,529	28.5	3,397	17.5	7,547	18	3,072	7	11,013	17.5	1,733	3				
2. Students, etc. . (included in 1)	3,701	20	4,179	22	2,332	12	2,569	13.5	2,191	5	2,213	5	965	1.5	1,007	1.5				
3. Occupied . .	9,455	51.5	11,897	63.5	13,790	71.5	16,017	82.5	34,476	82	38,797	93	51,515	82.5	58,553	97				
4. Out of work . (included in 3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,019	4	7,727	5.5
Totals (1 and 3)	18,304	100	18,762	100	19,319	100	19,414	100	42,023	100	41,869	100	62,528	100	60,286	100				

TABLE V.—Continued.

EAST

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Not gainfully occupied	9,145	65	6,292	43.5	6,255	44	3,108	20.5	8,801	29	2,880	9	12,426	28	3,879	8				
2. Students, etc. . . (included in 1)	3,794	27	4,346	30	2,190	15.5	2,363	15.5	2,175	7	2,122	6.5	1,228	3	3,250	7				
3. Occupied . . .	4,985	35	8,196	56.5	8,014	56	11,989	79.5	21,711	71	29,053	91	31,556	72	44,211	92				
4. Out of work . . . (included in 3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,181	5	7,426	6.5
Totals (1 and 3)	14,130	100	14,488	100	14,269	100	15,097	100	30,512	100	31,933	100	43,982	100	48,090	100				

SOUTH-WEST

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Not gainfully occupied	9,829	67.5	7,770	53	6,890	46	4,475	29.5	10,091	30.5	4,417	13.5	13,698	27.5	2,252	4.5				
2. Students, etc. . . (included in 1)	5,454	37.5	6,074	41	3,059	20.5	3,600	24	3,198	9.5	3,442	10.5	1,204	2.5	1,397	3				
3. Occupied . . .	4,680	32.5	6,960	47	8,177	54	10,666	70.5	22,926	69.5	28,116	86.5	35,727	72.5	48,953	95.5				
4. Out of work . . . (included in 3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,878	3.5	5,014	4.5
Totals (1 and 3)	14,509	100	14,730	100	15,067	100	15,141	100	33,017	100	32,533	100	49,425	100	51,205	100				

TABLE V.—Continued.

WALES I

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Not gainfully occupied	14,170	85.5	10,506	61.5	11,577	70	5,839	33	18,086	54.5	6,147	16.5	21,828	47.5	3,253	6.5				
2. Students, etc., (included in 1)	5,885	35.5	6,838	40	3,444	21	3,647	20.5	3,613	10.5	3,985	10.5	1,730	3.5	1,943	4				
3. Occupied . .	2,394	14.5	6,663	38.5	4,905	30	11,939	67	15,158	45.5	31,496	83.5	23,949	52.5	46,895	93.5				
4. Out of work . . (included in 3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,834	4.5	12,976	10.5
Totals (1 and 3)	16,564	100	17,169	100	16,482	100	17,778	100	33,244	100	37,643	100	45,777	100	50,148	100				

WALES II

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. Not gainfully occupied	4,540	82.5	3,749	66.5	3,674	64.5	2,203	38.5	5,525	48.5	2,247	19	6,581	40	1,347	8				
2. Students, etc., (included in 1)	2,488	45	2,739	48.5	1,524	27	1,583	27.5	1,483	13	1,638	14	817	5	933	5.5				
3. Occupied . .	971	17.5	1,897	33.5	2,005	35.5	3,546	61.5	5,894	51.5	9,645	81	9,923	60	16,027	92				
4. Out of work . . (included in 3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,501	4	2,917	7
Totals (1 and 3)	5,511	100	5,646	100	5,679	100	5,749	100	11,419	100	11,892	100	16,504	100	17,374	100				

TABLE V.—Continued.

GREATER LONDON

Age	14				15				16-17				18-20				14-20			
	G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.		G.		B.	
1. Not gainfully occupied	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
2. Students, etc. (included in 1)	31,978	53.5	28,214	47	22,756	35	17,852	28	25,611	17	16,657	12	33,150	14	9,009	4				
3. Occupied . .	22,210	37	22,952	31	16,001	24.5	15,532	24.5	14,381	9.5	13,852	10	7,867	3.5	6,709	3				
	27,829	46.5	32,007	53	42,400	65	45,664	72	123,972	83	122,968	88	207,441	86	204,616	96				
4. Out of work (included in 3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20,468	4	33,816	7
Totals (1 and 3)	59,807	100	60,221	100	65,156	100	63,516	100	149,583	100	139,625	100	240,591	100	213,635	100				

CONSTITUTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS

Census Reports and Registrar-General's Reports

SOUTH-EAST				NORTH I				NORTH II				NORTH III				NORTH IV			
Bedfordshire				Durham				Cumberland				Yorks., W.R.				Cheshire			
Berkshire				Northumberland				Westmoreland				Yorks., C.B.				Lancashire			
Buckinghamshire								Yorks., E.R.											
Essex								Yorks., N.R.											
Hertfordshire																			
Kent																			
London																			
MIDLANDS I				MIDLANDS II				EAST				SOUTH-WEST							
Gloucestershire				Derbyshire				Cambridgeshire				Norfolk				Cornwall			
Herefordshire				Leicestershire				Ely, Isle of				Rutland				Devonshire			
Shropshire				Northamptonshire				Huntingdonshire				Suffolk, East				Dorsetshire			
Staffordshire				Nottinghamshire				Lincolnshire				Suffolk, West				Somersetshire			
Warwickshire				Peterborough, Soke of				Parts of Holland								Wiltshire			
Worcestershire								Do. Kesteven											
								Do. Lindsey											
WALES I				WALES II															
Brecknock				Anglesey								Merionethshire							
Carmarthenshire				Caernarvonshire								Montgomeryshire							
Glamorganshire				Cardiganshire								Pembrokeshire							
Monmouthshire				Denbighshire								Radnorshire							
				Flintshire															

TABLE VI.

AGES OF PERSONS MARRIED IN 1932, SHOWING PERCENTAGES OF " UNDER 21 "

Compiled from Registrar-General's Statistical Review of England and Wales for 1932

AGES OF WOMEN	GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS														
	England and Wales	South East	North	North I	North II	North III	North IV	Midland	Midland I	Midland II	East	South-West	Wales	Wales I	Wales II
All Ages . . .	307,184	105,510	100,486	16,973	9,119	27,428	46,966	53,295	34,507	18,788	13,026	15,499	19,368	14,576	4,792
Under 21 . . .	49,278	14,984	17,302	3,651	1,770	4,778	7,103	8,585	5,312	3,273	2,315	2,357	3,735	3,046	689
Per cent. of Under 21 to All Ages	16.0	14.2	17.2	21.5	19.4	17.4	15.1	16.1	15.4	16.9	17.8	16.2	19.3	20.9	14.4

TABLE VII.

TABLE COMPILED FROM THE *MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE*, OCTOBER 1934

NUMBER OF JUVENILES AVAILABLE FOR EMPLOYMENT																			
Estimated Numbers of Boys and Girls reaching the ages of 14, 15, 16 and 17 in Great Britain, during the years specified below										Estimated Numbers of Boys and Girls likely to be available for employment in Great Britain, at the end of the years specified below									
Year	Boys				Girls				Total	Year	Boys				Girls				Total
	14	15	16	17	14	15	16	17			14	15	16	17	14	15	16	17	
	(thousands)				(thousands)						(thousands)				(thousands)				
1931	316	364	372	393	311	358	372	396	2882	1931	174	273	312	369	135	220	267	318	2068
1932	316	316	363	371	310	311	356	370	2713	1932	174	237	305	349	134	191	255	297	1942
1933	342	315	315	363	334	309	310	356	2644	1933	188	236	265	341	144	190	222	286	1872
1934	472	342	315	314	462	334	309	310	2858	1934	260	257	265	295	200	205	222	249	1953
1935	422	472	341	314	415	462	333	308	3067	1935	232	354	286	295	179	284	239	247	2116
1936	392	421	471	340	383	414	461	332	3214	1936	216	316	396	320	166	255	331	266	2266
1937	378	391	420	470	373	382	413	460	3287	1937	208	293	353	442	161	235	296	369	2357
1938	367	378	390	420	361	373	381	412	3082	1938	202	284	328	395	156	229	273	331	2198
1939	356	366	377	389	350	359	372	381	2950	1939	196	275	317	366	151	221	267	306	2099
1940	352	355	366	376	346	349	359	372	2875	1940	194	266	307	353	150	215	258	299	2042
1941	334	352	355	365	330	346	349	358	2789	1941	184	264	298	343	143	213	250	287	1982
1942	338	334	351	354	332	329	345	348	2731	1942	186	251	295	333	144	202	248	279	1938
1943	333	337	333	350	326	332	329	344	2684	1943	183	253	280	329	141	204	236	276	1902
1944	336	333	337	332	329	326	330	328	2651	1944	185	250	283	312	142	200	237	263	1872
1945	324	336	332	336	317	328	325	329	2627	1945	178	252	279	316	137	202	233	264	1861

APPENDIX

(4) CLUB QUESTIONNAIRE

RECREATIONAL SURVEY OF ENGLAND AND WALES

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF GIRLS' CLUBS, 3 BLOOMSBURY PLACE, W.C. 1

Purpose of Survey.—We are becoming increasingly aware of the importance of leisure and its close relation to social and industrial questions, and those of us who are particularly concerned with the welfare of young people feel the urgency of the problem for them. Where unemployment exists the need for consideration of leisure-time opportunities is even more vital.

The Carnegie Trustees, by a generous grant, have made it possible for the National Council of Girls' Clubs to undertake a survey of the recreational facilities available for girls and young women in England and Wales, with a view to ascertaining their leisure-time needs.

If this Survey is to be of any value it must be comprehensive, and this is only possible when we have the willing co-operation of those who are already doing much to help young people. We are sure that this investigation will enlist your sympathy, and we therefore confidently appeal for your support. We should be most grateful if, by filling up the following Questionnaire, you would help to provide us with information as to the already existing opportunities and the need for further development.

The report of the Survey would, of course, be available to all co-operating societies, and we intend that any policy of development of work amongst girls will be based on the needs of all clubs and similar organisations which are seeking to organise leisure-time opportunities for girls.

Suggestions to Club Leaders.—Might I suggest that it would be a good plan to have a discussion with club members on leisure and arouse their interest in the enquiry. If this is possible it would be useful to know what they themselves feel about the opportunities available for them, and it would be most interesting to discover whether there is any connection between the kind of activities enjoyed most and the type of occupation in which the members are engaged.

MADELINE ROOFF,
Survey Organiser.

NOTES ON FILLING UP THE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Although this Questionnaire looks long, it is in this way simplified, so that many of the answers need be merely "yes" or "no."
2. There is no need to fill up every section. It may not all apply to your unit. If you can fill up only some parts, the information will be valuable, but the more sections you can and do fill in correctly, the better.
3. Please return this form to :
Not later than

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

No. of Form
County
Type of Club

I. DESCRIPTION

1. Name of Club or Unit
Address (including County)
2. Date of Foundation
3. Aim or purpose
4. Name and address of organisation, church, or religious body (if any) to which it is attached. (Give denomination of Church)
5. Are you affiliated to a Club Union, Juvenile Organisations Committee, or similar organisation other than your own Headquarters? If so, please specify
6. Name and Address of :
(a) Club Leader ..
(b) Club Secretary
7. In what kind of premises does your Club meet ?
(a) Hall (b) Room or rooms (how many)
(c) Any other
Are they owned and used exclusively by the Club ?
Are they rented from an organisation ?
If so, what rent per night is paid ?
Are you often inconvenienced through the hall being wanted for other purposes ?
8. Have you a playground or playing field of your own ?
If not, what facilities have you for outdoor games ?
9. Remarks.

II. MEMBERSHIP

1. What is the total membership of girls in the Clubs ?
Give details, if possible, in A. If not, use column B.
- | | A. Numbers. | (Your own grouping.) | B. Numbers. |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
| (a) Under 14 years of age | | | |
| (b) 14 and under 16 " | | | |
| (c) 16 and under 18 " | | | |
| (d) 18 and under 25 " | | | |
| (e) Over 25 years of age | | | |
2. What is the average nightly attendance ?
(a) May to Aug. (incl.) (b) Sept. to April (incl.)
 3. How many nights a week is unit open for the various age-groups ?
- | | A. Nights a week. | B. Nights a week. |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| (a) Under 14 years of age | | |
| (b) 14—16 " | | |
| (c) 16—18 " | | |
| (d) Over 18 " | | |
| Total nights a week open | | |
| Do you open on Sundays ? | | |
4. How many Leaders have you ?
- | | Untrained. | Trained. | Specify type of training, e.g.
Club Leader, teacher, social
worker, etc. |
|--------------------|------------|----------|--|
| (a) Paid full time | | | |
| (b) Paid part time | | | |
| (c) Voluntary | | | |

5. From what type of neighbourhood do the members come? Give rough estimate of proportion where possible. If not, write "yes" or "no."
 - (a) Working-class houses
 - (b) Bad housing conditions
 - (c) New housing
 - (d) Scattered country districts
 - (e) Any other
6. In which of the following types of employment are your members engaged? Give proportions where possible. If not, write "yes" or "no."
 - (a) Factory
 - (b) Clerical
 - (c) Domestic (other than in own home)
 - (d) Helping at home
 - (e) Shops
 - (f) Any other
7. Have any of your members difficulty in attending regularly or punctually owing to long working hours? If so, please specify to which groups (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f) this particularly applies
8. Remarks.

III. CONDITIONS

1. Have you any conditions of membership of your Club?

If so, which of the following apply? ("Yes" or "No.")

 - (a) Membership of a religious body (a)
 - (b) Residence in a particular district (b)
 - (c) Employment of a particular kind (c)
 - (d) Any other conditions (d)
2. Is there any upper age limit? If so, please specify:
 - (a) Of admission (b) Of membership
3. Is there a married women's section? ("Yes" or "No.")

If so, is it confined to old Club Members?
4. What is the member's subscription, if any?

In what other ways do you raise funds?
5. Is there a Committee of Management? ("Yes" or "No.")

If so, is it recruited:

 - (a) From people outside the Club?
 - (b) From Club Leaders and Helpers?
 - (c) From Club Members?
 - (d) From the Church or religious body to which the Club is attached?

What other Committees are there composed of Club Members?

 - (a) Exclusively
 - (b) Partly
6. *Inter-Club Activities.*—Do any of the following form part of your programme?

(a) Club visiting	(b) Combined lectures
(c) Concerts	(d) Dances
(e) Festivals	(f) Competitions
(g) Any other	(h) Joint Church service
7. Do you have mixed evenings, when friends of either sex are invited?

If so, how often?

Do you have a Boys' Club organised through the Girls' Club?
8. Remarks.

IV. ACTIVITIES

1. Is there a religious basis to your Club ?
 If so, do you have :
 (a) Any religious observances in the Club ?
 (b) Sunday School or Bible Class in connection with the Club ?
 (c) Any other ?
2. Have you a Library ?
 If so, give the approximate number of books
 Do you have a supply of daily papers or periodicals ?
 Have you received a grant :
 (a) From the Carnegie Trust ?
 (b) Any other source ?
 Have you any scheme of co-operation with a public library ?
3. Is there any scheme of co-operation between the Clubs and :
 (Write " Yes " or " No.")
 (a) Local Education Authority
 (b) Juvenile Advisory Com. or Juvenile Employment Com.
 (c) Workers' Educational Association
 (d) Women's Institutes
 (e) Any other body ?
 Do you have instructors or tutors from any of these bodies ?
 Is co-operation achieved in any other way ?
4. Which of the following activities form part of your programme ?
 (a) Handicrafts : (Write " Yes " or " No.")
 (1) Dressmaking (6) Leather-work
 (2) Embroidery (7) Toy-making
 (3) Knitting (8) Rug-making
 (4) Pewter (9) Raffia
 (5) Basket-work (10) Any other
 (b) Hobbies
 (c) Music
 (d) Drama
 (e) Wireless Groups
 (f) Lectures
 (g) Debates

Lectures.	Debates and discussions.
(1) Citizenship
(2) Current Events
(3) Economics
(4) Literature
(5) Languages
(6) Religion
(7) Any other
(h) Cookery
(i) Health and Nursing Activities
(j) Socials
(k) Any other
5. *Physical Training.*
 Do you have the following activities ?
 Indoor Classes :
 (a) Drill—
 (1) Musical
 (2) Swedish
 (b) Dancing
 (c) Skipping
 (d) Any other

- Outdoor Classes :
- (a) Netball
 - (b) Rounders
 - (c) Hockey
 - (d) Any other
- Rambles
- Swimming
6. *Indoor Games.*
- Badminton Ping-Pong Other Games
7. Do you have a " quiet " room ?
8. Have you a canteen ?
9. *Holidays.*—Do you arrange summer holidays :
- (a) Run by yourselves ?
 - (b) Run by other organisations ?
- How often during the last five years have your members attended Group Holidays ?
- (1) Summer (2) Xmas (3) Easter.....
10. *Medical Service.*
- (a) Have you an organised medical scheme (such as that approved by the N.C.G.C.) ?
 - (b) Do you have arrangements for convalescence ?
 - (c) Do you make any other provision ?
11. *Unemployment.*—What, if anything, is being done in your unit for the unemployed ?
12. Remarks.

It would be valuable if you would answer the Questions in this Section

V. THE NEEDS OF GIRLS IN THE DISTRICT

1. Do you consider the needs of girls from 12—25 are met with adequately by existing organisations, both voluntary and statutory ?
If not, what, in your opinion, is the chief need, *e.g.* new Clubs, further development of old ones, greater co-ordination, etc. ?
2. *Your own needs.*—Are you mainly hindered by lack of finance or of helpers or equipment, or by inadequate premises, or in any other way ?
Do you feel there is urgent need for the development of the work of your organisation or unit ? If so, along what lines ?
3. Is there any falling off in club membership at particular ages ? (Please specify which.)
Is there any type of girl whom you find difficult to attract or retain ? If so, can you suggest any solution to this problem ?
Do you use any special means to draw in school leavers ?
Do you find that girls in different kinds of occupations need, or enjoy, different activities ?
4. Any other remarks.

(B) RECREATIONAL SURVEY. AREA ENQUIRY FORMS

Purpose of Area Enquiry.—The Carnegie Trustees, by a generous grant, have made it possible for the National Council of Girls' Clubs to undertake a survey of the recreational facilities available for girls and young women in England and Wales, with a view to ascertaining their leisure-time needs.

We hope by means of the Area Enquiry to supplement and co-ordinate the material provided by the Unit Questionnaires, and to check statistical

information in the light of the experience of workers who know the conditions and needs of their neighbourhood.

N.B.—Questionnaires have been distributed to each unit of the following organisations :—Federation of Working Girls' Clubs ; Girls' Friendly Society ; Girls' Guildry ; Girls' Life Brigade ; Y.W.C.A. Clubs ; Camp Fire Girls ; and Christian Alliance of Women and Girls.

SUGGESTIONS FOR AN ENQUIRY IN AN AREA

A

1. Definition of the area in terms of Local Government Districts [.....]
 Name of Investigator
 and/or
 Name of Association, Union or Committee
 2. Provision of Voluntary Organisations offering recreational facilities to young women and girls.
 Please give the number of Clubs, Companies, etc., existing in your area in the following grouping :

(1) "Open" Clubs, <i>i.e.</i> to which any girl is welcome without restriction	Total No. of Clubs.
(2) Church Clubs	
(3) Old Scholars' Clubs	
(4) Other Clubs and Units (with the exception of organisations starred above)	
- Where possible, it would be valuable to have the following information concerning the activities of Voluntary Organisations :
- (a) Full information by the distribution of the Unit Questionnaire to your own Clubs, and to all Open Clubs which meet regularly.
 - (b) Of the groups 2, 3, 4, it would be useful if some account could be given of their activities, etc. (See attached form, further copies of which can be obtained.)

I. FACILITIES IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

B

1. *Co-operation.*—To what extent does co-operation exist between the individual clubs, units, etc., *i.e.* inter-club activities, combined meetings, socials, demonstrations, etc. ?
2. Are adequate premises available for large joint meetings, socials, lectures, demonstrations, etc. ? (Please indicate whether free or at a charge.)
3. What kind of playing fields are available for girls, *e.g.* school playgrounds, pitches in public recreation grounds, business firms' grounds ? (Please indicate whether free or at a charge.)

II. LEADERS

1. From what sources are the voluntary leaders and helpers of the various organisations drawn ?
 - (a) Toc H League of Women Helpers.
 - (b) Colleges.
 - (c) Old Girls' Societies of Schools.
 - (d) Welfare Workers.
 - (e) Teachers.
 - (f) Social Service Centres.
 - (g) Church Members.
 - (h) Leisured Women.
 - (i) Any other.
2. What facilities exist in the area for training leaders ?

APPENDIX

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[illegible]

NEEDS

C

1. Do you consider the provision of voluntary organisations adequate? (By reference to housing conditions and density of population.) (Indications of districts badly served would be valuable.)
2. In what directions do you think further development for women and girls is needed?
 - (a) More Clubs?
 - (b) Of what type?
 - (c) Better facilities for co-operation?
 - (d) Closer touch with Local Authorities?
 - (e) Better publicity?
 - (f) Teachers, Leaders and Helpers?
 - (g) Premises?
 - (h) Playing Fields?
 - (i) Holiday Homes?
 - (j) Luncheon Clubs?
 - (k) Adaptation of programme and premises to meet the needs of unemployed women and girls?
 - (l) Club facilities for young married women, etc.?
3. Are there any sections of the girl population whom it is difficult to attract or retain, yet for whom you feel clubs or other organisations are desirable?
4. How do you advertise your needs and obtain publicity for young people's welfare?

NATURE OF DISTRICT

D

1. The chief occupations available for girls and young women, and the hours of work in each?
2. Is work for a large section of the girl population far away from their homes? If so, what is the nature of the transport facilities?
3. *Unemployed*.—What steps are taken with regard to unemployed women and girls?

ANY OTHER REMARKS

E

- (a) Home conditions.
- (b) Response to educational facilities.
- (c) Part played by Sports Clubs of various kinds, dramatic and choral societies, etc.
- (d) Influence of amusements provided by commercial enterprise.
- (e) Is political feeling strong, and does it affect young people's recreational facilities?

(C) QUESTIONNAIRE TO DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION

ENQUIRY INTO THE PROVISION OF LEISURE-TIME ACTIVITIES

1. Proportion of Elementary School Leavers who proceeded to Further Educational Classes without a break :

1931-1932		1932-1933		1933-1934	
Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
2. Number of Students enrolled in Evening Classes, in Age-Groups. It would be valuable if you could differentiate between attendances at—
 - (a) Vocational Classes (Training Classes for trades, commerce, domestic posts, etc.);

- (b) General and Recreational Classes (Languages and literature, science, homecraft, handicrafts, music, drama, physical training, country dancing, first aid, etc.).

14—15		15—16		16—17		17—18		18—21		Over 21	
Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	M.	F.

3. Percentage of Actual Student Hours to Possible Student Hours.
4. Have you any comparative figures of attendances at Evening Classes for previous years ?
5. What are the fees for the various courses, and for the different types of Institute ? Do you distinguish between Age-Groups ? (*e.g.* school leavers, 15—18, over 18).
6. *Co-operation*.—To what extent are classes arranged in co-operation with Voluntary Organisations ?
 - (a) Type of Voluntary Organisation.
 - (b) Type of provision :
 - (1) Grant
 - (2) Tutors
 - (3) Premises
 - (4) Material or Apparatus
 - (c) Conditions :
 - (1) Subjects
 - (2) Fees
 - (3) Size of Class
 - (4) Any other
7. Are Grouped Courses compulsory in—
 - (a) Vocational Classes ?
 - (b) General and Recreational Classes ?
 In which of these do you permit—
 - (1) Single Classes ?
 - (2) One Hour Classes ?
 - (3) Mixed Classes ?
 (Please specify subjects.)
8. *Social Activities*.—To what extent are there social activities in connection with Evening Classes ? (Please state if mixed.)
 - (a) Frequency of Socials, etc.
 - (b) Type of Activity
 - (c) Provision of—
 - (1) Club Room
 - (2) Canteen
 - (d) Organisation of—
 - (1) Camps
 - (2) Foreign Travel
9. *Old Scholars' Clubs*.—Could you indicate to what extent Elementary Schools run Old Scholars' Clubs ?
10. *Play Centres*.—Are Play Centres organised by the Education Committee, or by Voluntary Organisations ? Please state :
 - (a) No. of Centres
 - (b) Average Attendance
 - (c) Upper and Lower Age Limits
 - (d) If open in the holidays
11. Any other remarks.

(Signed)

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ADDRESSES

YOUTH ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER SOCIETIES

- National Council of Girls' Clubs.*—3 Bloomsbury Place, W.C. 1.
Federation of Working Girls' Clubs.—73 Bolsover Street, W. 1.
Girls' Friendly Society.—Townsend House, Greycoat Place, S.W. 1.
Girls' Guildry.—66 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.
Girls' Life Brigade.—56 Old Bailey, E.C. 4.
Young Women's Christian Association.—Y.W.C.A. Central Building,
 Gt. Russell Street, W.C. 1.
- Local Unions.*
- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Division Secretaries</i> | { | <i>London Association.</i> —Miss MacKinnon, 73 Bolsover
Street, W. 1.
<i>North-West.</i> —Miss Booth, Aldersyde, Urmston,
Manchester. |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
- Birkenhead Union.*—Mrs E. M. McCartney, 7 Cecil Road, Prenton,
 Birkenhead.
Birmingham Union.—The Secretary, 318 Summer Lane, Birmingham.
Bolton Union.—Miss Mallison, Oaklands, Seymour Road, Bolton.
Bootle Union.—Mrs Sharpe, 3 Beech Green, West Derby, Liverpool.
Bristol Association.—Miss Gravatt, 12 Nelson Street, Bristol.
Burnley Union.—Miss Nowell, Willow Bank, Brooklands Road,
 Burnley.
Chester Federation.—Miss Llewellyn, Bishop Lloyd's House, Watergate
 Street, Chester.
Durham Union.—Miss Scott, Ladies' Club, 4 North Bailey, Durham.
Hull Federation.—Mrs Gibbons, Briar Gate, North Ferriby, East Yorks.
Leicester Federation.—Miss H. M. Ellis, The Gynsills, Goby Road,
 Leicester.
Liverpool Union.—Miss Duckworth, 30 Bluecoat Chambers, School
 Lane, Liverpool.
- London.*
- East Ham J.O.C.*—R. J. North, Esq., 23 Selsdon Road, Wanstead,
 E. 11.
Kensington Federation.—Miss Wrigley, 9 Pembridge Crescent, W. 11.
London Diocesan Girls' Fellowship.—Miss Barton, St Margaret's
 Rectory, Ironmonger Lane, E.C. 2.
London Girls' Club Union.—Miss Muskett, 234 Castellain Mansions,
 W. 9.
Paddington Federation.—Miss Hogarth, Littlewick Green, Maiden-
 head, Berks. (Temporary Secretary, Miss Martyn, 13 Hamilton
 Gardens, N.W. 8.)
St Pancras Federation.—Miss Beaumont, 80 Charrington Street, N.W. 1.
Shoreditch Federation.—Miss Thwaites, Maurice Hostel Settlement,
 30 Herbert Street, N. 1.

- Social Institutes' Union*.—Miss Micholls, 4 Portugal Street, Kingsway, W.C. 2.
- Stepney Association*.—Miss Dyer, 32 High Street, Shadwell, E. 1.
- West Ham J.O.C.*—Miss Bell, 14 Wanlip Road, Plaistow, E. 13.
- Manchester, Salford and District Union*.—Miss Makin, 44 King Street, Manchester, 2.
- Norfolk and Norwich Federation*.—Miss Hoare, Belaugh House, Wroxham, Norfolk.
- Nottingham and Notts. Union*.—Miss Hatton, 32 Park Row, Nottingham.
- Oxford J.O.C.*—The Secretary, Barnett House, Broad Street, Oxford.
- Rochdale and District Union*.—Mrs Cox, St Edmund's Terrace, Rochdale.
- St Helen's Union*.—Mrs Blair, 1 Mansion House, Victoria Park, St Helen's, Lancs.
- Southampton Federation*.—Miss D. Young, 30 Burgess Road, Southampton.
- Southend Federation*.—Miss Leaney, 49 Lancaster Gardens, Southend-on-Sea.
- Staffordshire Old Scholars' Association*.—Captain Steventon, Staffordshire Education Committee Elementary Dept., County Education Office, Stafford.
- Stoke-on-Trent Union*.—Miss Simon, Town Hall, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent.
- Sunderland Union*.—Miss Burnett, 3 Augusta Terrace, Whitburn, Sunderland.
- Swindon Union*.—Miss Pearson, Clarence House, Clarence Street, Swindon, Wilts.
- Union of Scattered Clubs*.—c/o N.C.G.C., 3 Bloomsbury Place, W.C. 1.
- Wallasey Union*.—Mrs Williams, 3 Glebe Road, Wallasey.
- Worthing Union*.—Miss Stephenson, 33 Shakespeare Road, Worthing.
- Cardiff and District Federation*.—Miss Jones, 65 Coveney Street, Cardiff.
- South Wales Coalfields' Federation*.—Miss George, c/o Boys' Club, Y.M.C.A., Pontypridd.
- National Association of Boys' Clubs*.—52 Bedford Square, W.C. 1.
- Association of Jewish Youth*.—Camperdown House, Half-Moon Passage, E. 1.
- British Camp Fire Girls*.—50 Pall Mall, S.W. 1.
- British Red Cross Society* (Junior Red Cross Links).—14 Grosvenor Crescent, S.W. 1.
- Christian Alliance of Women and Girls*.—16 Dartmouth Street, S.W. 1.
- Church Girls' Brigade*.—St Margaret's Rectory, Ironmonger Lane, E. 1.
- Girl Guides Association*.—17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, S.W. 1.
- League of Nations Union* (Youth Groups).—15 Grosvenor Crescent, S.W. 1.
- National Adult School Union* (Young People's Committee).—30 Bloomsbury Street, W.C. 1.
- National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs*.—16 Russell Square, W.C. 1.
- National Home Fire Girls' Association*.—108 Darwin Lane, Ranmoor, Sheffield, 10.
- Regnal League of Fellowship*.—6 Ecclestone Street, S.W. 1.
- St John Ambulance Association*.—St John's Gate, E.C. 1.

- Wayfarers' Sunday Association*.—(Mrs M. Bear), 191 St James Court, S.W. 1.
- Baptist Union*.—4 Southampton Row, W.C. 1.
- Board of Education Juvenile Organisations Committee*.—Board of Education, Whitehall, S.W. 1.
- British Association of Residential Settlements*.—Toynbee Hall, Commercial Street, E. 1.
- British Institute of Adult Education*.—39 Bedford Square, W.C. 1.
- Catholic Women's League*.—46 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.
- Central Council for the Social Welfare of Women and Girls*.—53 Victoria Street, S.W. 1.
- Congregational Union*.—Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, E.C. 4.
- Educational Settlements Association*.—Mary Ward House, Tavistock Place, W.C. 1.
- Industrial Welfare Society*.—14 Hobart Place, S.W. 1.
- Institute of Labour Management*.—Terminal House, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, S.W. 1.
- National Association of Probation Officers*.—47 Whitehall, S.W. 1.
- National Council of Social Service*.—26 Bedford Square, W.C. 1.
- National Council of Women of Great Britain*.—Murray House, Vandon Street, S.W. 1.
- National Federation of Women's Institutes*.—39 Eccleston Street, S.W. 1.
- National Playing Fields Association*.—71 Eccleston Square, S.W. 1.
- National Union of Townswomen's Guilds*.—4 Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.
- National Women Citizens' Association*.—155 Denmark Hill, S.E. 5.
- Presbyterian Church of England*.—15 Russell Square, W.C. 1.
- Salvation Army*.—122 Queen Victoria Street, E.C. 4.
- Shaftesbury Society*.—John Kirk House, 32 John Street, Theobald's Road, W.C.1.
- Soroptimists* (Miss Hawes).—79 Leadenhall Street, E.C. 3.
- Society of Friends*.—Friends' House, Euston Road, N.W. 1.
- Toc H League of Women Helpers*.—28 Great Tower Street, E.C. 3.
- Workers' Educational Association*.—38A St George's Road, S.W. 1.
- Workers' Travel Association*.—Transport House, Smith Square, S.W. 1.
- Youth Hostels Association*.—18 Bridge Road, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

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